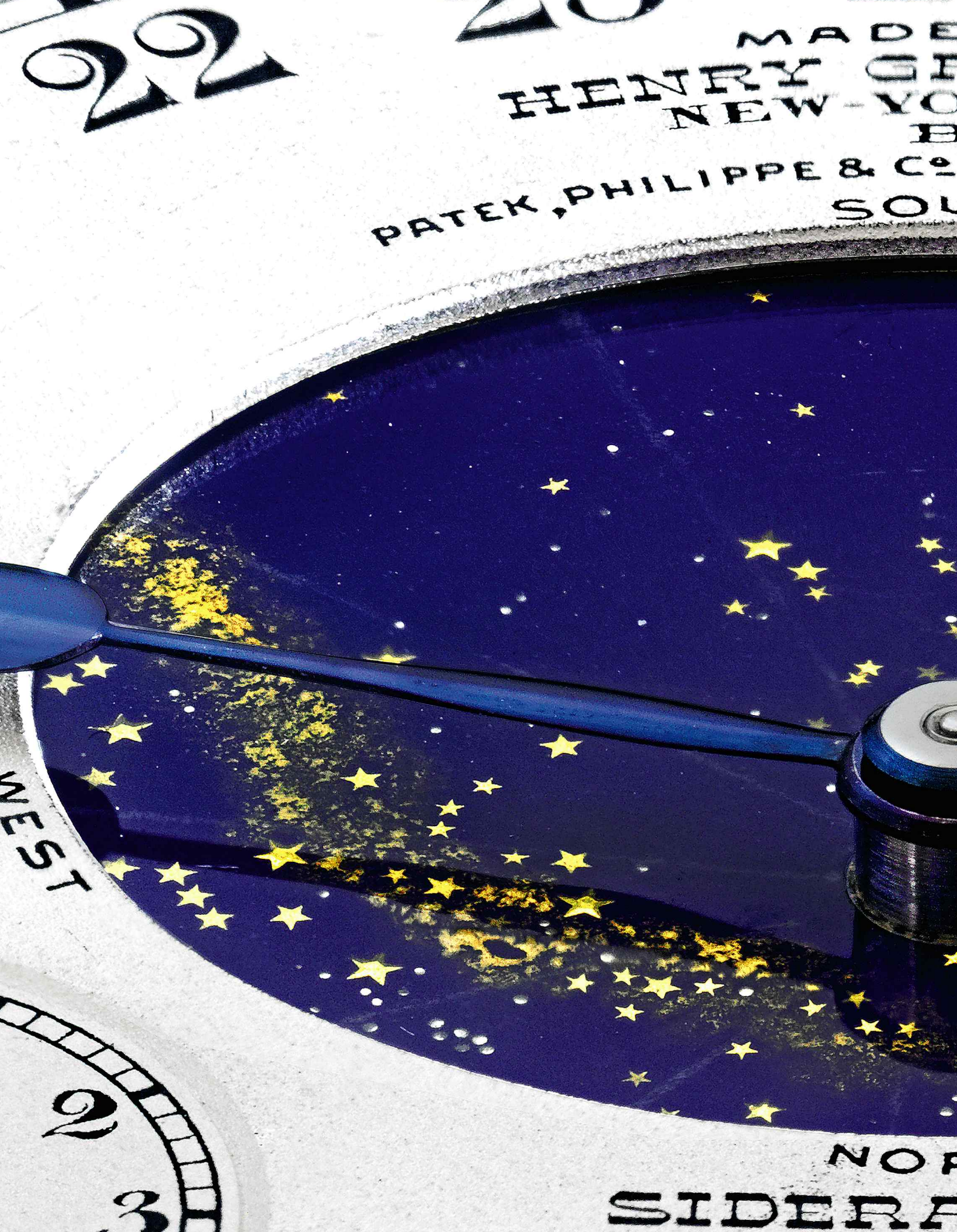
Sotheby's



THE HENRY GRAVES JR. PATEK PHILIPPE SUPERCOMPLICATION

GENEVA 11 NOVEMBER 2014


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Established in 1839

PATEK PHILIPPE & Co.
S.A.

GENEVA

Highest Awards since 184

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN & WAR

for

No. 198385

supercomplicated

THE HENRY GRAVES JR. PATEK PHILIPPE SUPERCOMPLICATION

AUCTION IN GENEVA
11 NOVEMBER 2014
SALE GE1404
LOT 345, SESSION THREE

SESSION ONE: 10AM Lots 1-162
SESSION TWO: 2PM Lots 163-321
SESSION THREE: 6PM Lots 322-368

EXHIBITION
Saturday 8 November
10 am-6 pm

Sunday 9 November
10 am-6 pm

Monday 10 November
10 am-6 pm

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A Condition Report is an opinion describing in more depth the lot with regards to, but not limited to, the general condition and/or other relevant information.

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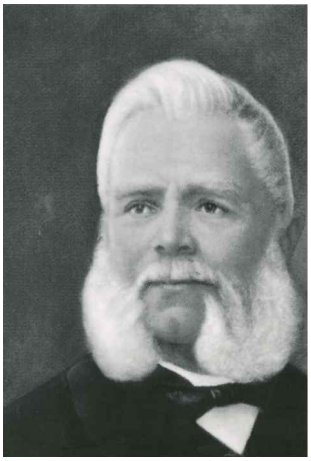
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Photography
Ed Parrinello
Jasper Gough

PATEK PHILIPPE: 175 YEARS OF TIME

The illustrious history of Patek Philippe began in 1839 with the formation of the firm Patek, Czapek & Co. During the 1830s, Antoine Norbert de Patek emigrated from Poland to Geneva where he became fascinated by watchmaking. In 1839, Patek joined the talented watchmaker François Czapek to establish the firm of Patek, Czapek & Co. Around the same time another young watchmaker, Jean Adrien Philippe, was making his own watches in France and had developed an ingenious stem-winding and crown-setting system to replace the use of a key. Jean Adrien Philippe's development attracted the attention of Antoine Norbert de Patek who offered him a position and used his imaginative skills to design the machines needed to increase the number of high quality watches produced by the company. Mr. Czapek and Mr. Patek parted ways. Mr. Philippe became a partner and, on 1st January 1851, the watchmaker was re-named and established as Patek, Philippe & Co. Mr. Philippe oversaw the production and was responsible for innovations, while Mr. Patek became marketing director and promoted the watches overseas. Following the deaths of Mr. Patek in 1877 and Mr. Philippe in 1894, the company continued manufacturing high quality watches. Two of the most famous watch collectors, James Ward Packard of Ohio and Henry Graves, Jr. of New York, requested watches to be made exclusively for them and urged Patek Philippe to new heights of technical skill. However, the company was not impervious to the economic crash of 1929 and by 1932, Patek Philippe was for sale. It was bought by Jean and Charles Stern of the dial makers Stern Frères, who had previously made the dials for Patek Philippe. Under their new direction, their firm opened the Henri Stern Watch Agency in New York which has fulfilled the demand for practical, complex and innovative watches ever since. Collectors around the world would agree that a Patek Philippe watch, with its famed Calatrava symbol, is the epitome of quality, precision, and craftsmanship.



ANTOINE NORBERT DE PATEK (1812-1877)
COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA



JEAN ADRIEN PHILIPPE (1815-1894)
COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA



PATEK PHILIPPE MUSEUM
COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA



SHOWROOM AT PATEK PHILIPPE, LATE 19TH CENTURY



WATCH MANUFACTORY
Established in 1839
PATEK, PHILIPPE & Co
S.A.
GENEVA
Highest Awards since 184

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN & WAR

for
the watch No 198385
Double faced, supercomplicated w
25 lines, stemwinder-lever-escapement compen
70 jewels enamelled & gold silvered dials

The case is open face
made of 18 carat
The movement and the case were made
and we warrant their superior finish

PAT

IMP. P. ARNAUD LYON PARIS

The pocket-watch, being of very delicate mechanism, and neverthel
submitted to the following management to work well :
1. Keep the watch free from dust, damp, the evaporation of acids ar
— 2. Never expose the works to the air except when it is necessary
the case should not shut tight get it repaired without delay. — 4.
for though the watch may do without it, its regularity is impeded
5. A watch, regulated to be worn, will go faster, when left in a
regulator, for clocks seldom go correctly. — 7. When travelli
8. When after the watch has been in wear some time, a slight
regulating. — 9. Wind up your watch DAILY at the SAME HOUR. D
A watch should always be kept going.
THE WATCHES OF OUR INVENTION WHICH ARE WOUND UP AND
durable mechanism are very convenient for use and last longe
damp cannot get in and the oil does not coagulate so soon. —
to the right, the milled knob upon the stem ; stop as soon as you
key. — *To set to time*, draw out the said knob till you feel it disengag
right or left, the hands are moved backward or forward ; as soon as they are o
into its place.

LOT 345
PATEK PHILIPPE
THE HENRY GRAVES JR. SUPERCOMPLICATION

PATEK PHILIPPE & CO., GENEVA, NO. 198.385
STARTED IN 1925, COMPLETED IN 1932 AND
DELIVERED ON 19TH JANUARY 1933

DIAMETER 74MM;
THICKNESS OF CASE WITH GLASS 36MM;
WEIGHT OF CASE 535 GRAMMES
(APPROX. 1 LB. 3OZ)

○ ⊙ ESTIMATE UPON REQUEST



In the course of Patek Philippe's 175 years as a master watchmaker, an anniversary which the firm celebrates this November, many extraordinary watches have been created that have challenged the way we think about timepieces. It is an honor to offer the Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication in this important anniversary year of Patek Philippe, Geneva. The 1932 completion of the Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication re-defined the possibilities of watchmaking and changed horology forever. This is the second time that Sotheby's has had the privilege to work with this horological tour de force. The Supercomplication was previously offered at Sotheby's New York in December 1999, when it achieved the world record price for any timepiece, an auction record it still holds today, 15 years later.

Also known as the "Graves," this watch marries science, technology and craftsmanship in an unprecedented manner. Commissioned by Henry Graves, Jr. in 1925 and delivered to him in 1933, the world's most famous watch has 24 complications, including a chart of the night sky over New York City. The Supercomplication is the most complicated watch ever made without the assistance of computer technology. In fact, the Supercomplication held the title of most complicated watch for 56 years, until Patek Philippe produced the Calibre 89 – with 33 complications – in 1989 to coincide with the firm's 150th anniversary. Unlike the Supercomplication, which was made in one example, the Calibre 89 was produced in an edition of four pieces; one in yellow gold, one in white gold, one in pink gold, and one in platinum.

Herewith, we are delighted to share with you the story of the Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication and its journey through time.

We are grateful to Eric Tortella for his assistance in researching the Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication.



HENRY GRAVES, JR.



HENRY GRAVES, JR.

Henry Graves, Jr. (1868-1953) was more than just a modern man at the beginning of the 20th century; he was an innovator. Born into a prominent banking family in Orange, NJ, his father, Henry Graves, Sr., was a partner in the banking firm of Maxwell & Graves located at 143 Liberty Street, New York City. Henry Graves, Jr. joined his father in the financial industry and moved to New York City. In 1896, Mr. Graves married Florence Isabel Preston of Irvington-on-Hudson, New York and they had four children. As a wealthy society family at the turn of the century, Mr. and Mrs. Graves had the luxury of owning several vacation homes in addition to their residence in New York City. The family spent their summers at their homes in Irvington and Saranac, New York. In Saranac, the Graves owned Eagle Island, where Mr. Graves reveled in one of his sporting passions: boating. One of his treasured boats was the Eagle, a 50-foot speedboat.

During the winter, the family spent time near Charleston, South Carolina where Mr. Graves was a member of the prestigious Yeaman's Hall, an old plantation-turned-private club. The remainder of the year, the family lived at 420 Park Avenue in New York City, until the family moved to 834 Fifth Avenue in 1931. Mr. Graves would remain at his Fifth Avenue apartment until his death at the age of 86.

Mr. Graves had a well-known appreciation for the arts. On 3rd April 1936, a single-owner sale was held at the American Art Association Anderson, Galleries, Inc., a predecessor of Sotheby's in New York. The sale was titled "Masterpieces of Engraving and Etching: The Collection of Henry Graves, Jr." The introduction of the catalogue states:

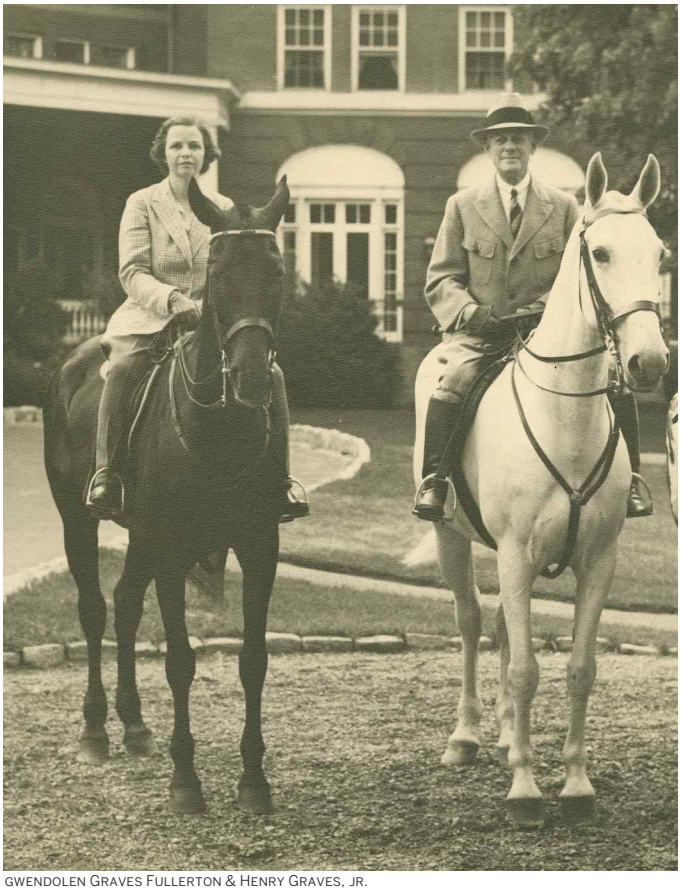
"The possibilities of collecting are revealed at their finest in the majority of the magnificent prints gathered by Mr. Graves. No other collection so rich in beauty, so carefully chosen, and in such splendid condition has ever been offered at public sale in this country."

The highlight of the sale was Albrecht Dürer's *Adam and Eve*, which brought an impressive $10,000. This price was truly remarkable at the time, given that the sale occurred in the midst of the Great Depression.

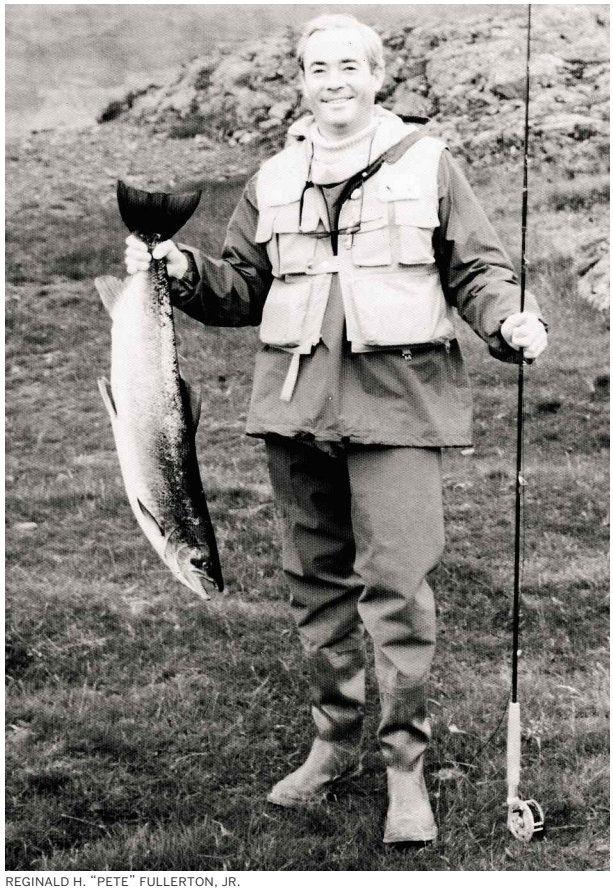
In addition to Mr. Graves' passion for fine art, he is remembered for his superb Patek Philippe collection of timepieces. Mr. Graves was introduced to the firm by his family jeweler, Tiffany & Co., and was impressed by Patek Philippe's success in various timing contests at the Geneva Observatory. Mr. Graves began acquiring Patek Philippe timepieces in the 1910s, ultimately becoming one of the firm's most notable patrons. Mr. Graves would either commission watches from the firm or would ask Patek Philippe to personalize timepieces he acquired with his family's coat-of-ams. The Graves coat-of-arms bears an eagle rising out of a ducal coronet, along with the motto: *Esse Quam Videri (To Be, Rather than to Seem)*. The majority of Mr. Graves' watches are distinguished by the use of this Coat-of-Arms on the case or, as with the Supercomplication, on the watch's box. Many of his pocket watches were further personalised: "Made for Henry Graves, Jr. New York."

In line with his own competitive spirit, Mr. Graves commissioned Patek Philippe to make him the most complicated watch – more complicated than James Ward Packard's Patek Philippe with sky chart no. 198.023, the Leroy No. 1 and the "Marie Antoinette" by Breguet. Mr. Graves became the very proud owner of the Supercomplication on 19th January 1933 for the sum of 60,000 SF ($15,000). Weighing approximately 535g (1 lb. 3 ounces), the watch consists of 920 individual components including 430 screws, 110 wheels, 120 mechanical levers or parts and 70 jewels.

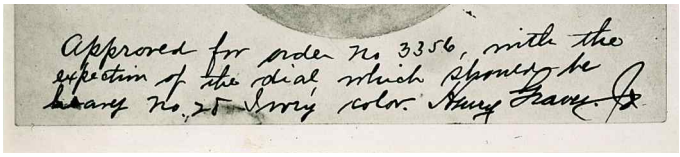
The Supercomplication remained in Mr. Graves' collection of timepieces until his death in 1953. His daughter, Gwendolen, inherited the Supercomplication and much of the collection and later gifted it onto her son, Reginald H. "Pete" Fullerton, Jr., in 1960. Mr. Fullerton, Henry Graves, Jr.'s grandson, was the last descendant of the Graves family to own the Supercomplication until its sale to Seth G. Atwood, founder of the Time Museum, in 1969.



GWENDOLEN GRAVES FULLERTON & HENRY GRAVES, JR.



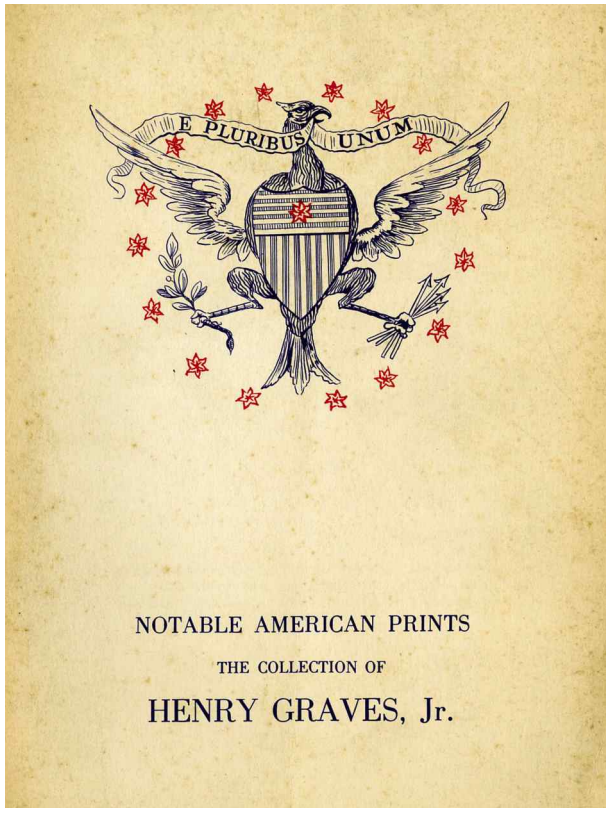
REGINALD H. "PETE" FULLERTON, JR.



A COPY OF HENRY GRAVES, JR'S APPROVAL FOR DIAL PROPOSAL
IMAGE COURTESY OF WWW.ERICTORTELLA.COM



THE GRAVES FAMILY COAT OF ARMS



CATALOGUE FROM AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION ANDERSON, GALLERIES, INC.'S APRIL 1936 SALE, "MASTERPIECES OF ENGRAVING AND ETCHING: THE COLLECTION OF HENRY GRAVES, JR."

834 FIFTH AVENUE

In the spring of 1929, the Graves were one of the first ten families to buy into 834 Fifth Avenue, which was still under construction (Perman 213). Designed by Rosario Candelas, the building was one of the last grand apartment buildings financed and built prior to the Great Depression. 834 Fifth Avenue was developed by Anthony Campagna and the city block on which it was built – 64th Street and 5th Avenue – was previously home to many prominent New York families (ibid 213).

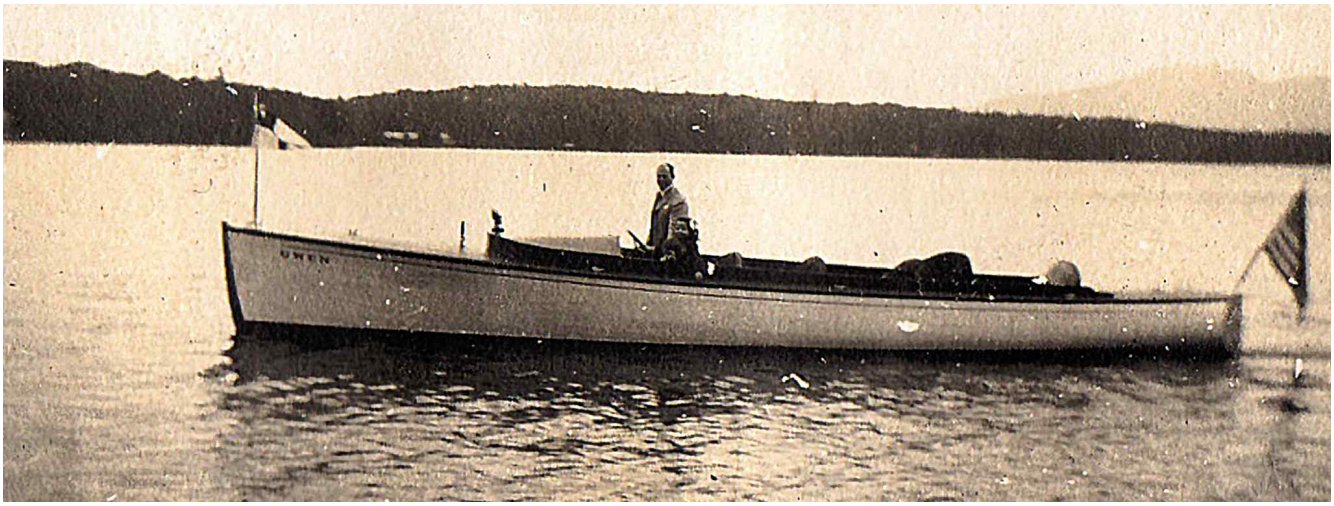
Living at 834 Fifth Avenue was the epitome of luxury and grandeur: no two apartments were alike and the building had sweeping views of Central Park. The Graves' had easy access to the Park and the private members club which Mr. Graves belonged to: the Metropolitan Club, located on 60th Street and Fifth Avenue. Along with bespoke design, Mr. Graves was able to install a personal vault in his home, allowing him to keep his prized possessions and his vast collection of timepieces safe throughout the years (ibid 214).

Just as James Ward Packard had commissioned Patek Philippe to include the night sky over Warren, Ohio for his double dialled watch, so Mr. Graves asked Patek Philippe for a similar feature to be displayed on his Supercomplication. Mr. Graves requested his sky chart to show the night sky over his Manhattan home, showing the correct spacing of stars amongst the Milky Way. Undoubtedly, the sky chart is one of the most stunning and impressive features of the Supercomplication. With it, Patek Philippe sought to preserve the glorious night sky over Central Park in the same way that the New York State Legislature, along with architects Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, preserved the natural setting on which Manhattan was founded (thusly creating Central Park) and Rosario Candelas' 834 Fifth Avenue preserved a slice of old New York.



834 FIFTH AVENUE, THE NEW YORK HOME OF HENRY GRAVES, JR., 1931-1953

THE SARANAC LAKE LEGEND



HENRY GRAVES, JR. ABOARD *GWEN* ON SARANAC LAKE, NEW YORK

In the words of Pete Fullerton, as written July 28, 2008:

> "Henry Graves, Jr. is possibly best known as the owner of the world's most complicated watch ... He had many concerns about its delivery and the publicity this brought. On a late summer day on Upper Saranac Lake, Henry and his only daughter, Gwendolen, were discussing his concerns about the unwanted exposure regarding his ownership of the world's most complicated watch. His thoughts turned to the kidnapping of the Lindbergh baby [in March 1932] and he worried about his new grandson Peter, Gwendolen's son. He told his daughter that he had a good mind to just 'throw the watch in the lake' and end all of the publicity. Gwendolen laughed and told her father that was not such a good idea and maybe he should just give her the watch."

Gwendolen kept the watch in safekeeping until giving it to Mr. Fullerton in 1960.



REGINALD H. "PETE" FULLERTON, JR. CIRCA 2004

THE CONTEST



HENRY GRAVES, JR.



One of the few, very few, minor regrets that I may have had during the 36 exhilarating years of my association with Patek Philippe, Geneva, is that I was not around during an era which, today, is considered as being the vintage years for a number of timepieces produced by the Manufactory, namely: between 1900 and 1935.

During that era, two men in the U.S.A., vied with one another to order and acquire exceptional watches, either for their time-keeping qualities or their complex mechanisms. Interestingly enough, both chose Patek Philippe as their principal source of supply. Thus started a fascinating 'contest' between two gentlemen . . . who were nevertheless rivals in the field of horology.

The first, Henry Graves, Jr. of New York, was essentially a sportsman and collector; but fortuitously born into a private banking family. The second was James Ward Packard of Warren, Ohio, the automobile manufacturer.

First one, then the other of these two gentlemen would order from Patek Philippe in Geneva, timepieces with multiple horological complications. By 1916, Mr. Packard had edged in front of Mr. Graves in his bid to own the finest and most complex watch in the world. Indeed, in January of that year he took delivery of an impressive pocket-watch made by Patek Philippe and which incorporated 16 horological complications. Again, in April 1927 a further stunning pocket-watch with ten complications, including a celestial-chart, was delivered to Mr. Packard by Patek Philippe. However, neither piece could claim to be the most complicated watch ever made.

For Mr. Graves, ever the sportsman and competitor, the challenge was irresistible. Unhesitatingly, he returned to the 'contest' with renewed determination. In strictest secrecy he once more approached Patek Philippe in Geneva with a monumental request, namely: to plan and construct "the most complicated watch ever made"

The master-watchmakers at Patek Philippe, undaunted, returned to their respective ateliers and drawing-boards to ponder this new, exciting challenge. Obviously, computer assistance in the construction of complex horological

mechanisms did not exist in those days. Exhaustive studies in the realms of astronomy, mathematics and precision mechanisms were necessary to achieve what then became the "world's most complicated timepiece" incorporating 25 horological complications. The Supercomplication retained that title for an impressively long time: 56 years in total.

By modern-day standards, the end result was achieved astonishingly quickly. Indeed, 'only' seven years were necessary, between 1925-1932, to research, develop and produce the chef-d'oeuvre ordered by Mr. Graves from Patek Philippe. The watch was delivered to Mr. Graves on 19th January 1933.

Then, in 1989, to mark Patek Philippe's 150th anniversary, they unveiled the Calibre 89 which incorporates 33 complications. Thus, the "Graves" watch lost its title...but to a worthy successor. For those who may have the privilege of actually handling this famous and extraordinary timepiece will, I am sure, experience an indefinable sensation. I certainly did!

Alan Banbery
Former Curator of the Patek Philippe Museum
Geneva, October 2014



THE PATEK PHILIPPE BUILDING
CIRCA 1932



JAMES WARD PACKARD
COURTESY OF LEHIGH UNIVERSITY, PENNSYLVANIA



JAMES WARD PACKARD'S 198.023
COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA

THE WATCHES OF HENRY GRAVES, JR.

Henry Graves, Jr. ordered 39 watches from Patek Philippe between 1922 and 1951, the majority of which were inherited by his grandson, Pete Fullerton.

Along with the watches, Mr. Fullerton retained many documents associated with the Supercomplication, including copies of correspondence from Patek Philippe. One letter signed by then-President Henri Stern, dated 23rd December 1960, confirmed the insurance valuation of the watch at 100,000 SF. In Stern's valuation he states;

"We now classify this particular watch as a collector's item, and as the only one of its kind. It is known as the world's most complicated watch, and it is generally admitted that it cannot be reproduced anymore and [is] therefore irreplaceable."

In addition to the correspondence that Mr. Fullerton kept was an early Polaroid, likely to have been taken in 1960, which shows the watches that Mr. Fullerton was given by his mother, Gwendolen Graves Fullerton.

As Mr. Graves was exceptionally discreet about his watch collection, it was not widely known that Mr. Graves had much of an affinity for wristwatches beyond two platinum minute repeaters and a yellow gold perpetual calendar chronograph (ref. 1518). When Sotheby's offered Mr. Fullerton's collection in Sotheby's 2012, the breadth of the Henry Graves, Jr. wristwatch collection came as a great revelation.

The June 2012 Sotheby's New York auction, Watches from the Collection of R.H. Fullerton, Jr., and Henry Graves, Jr. included a treasure trove of fourteen previously unknown pieces made for Mr. Graves, nine of which were wristwatches. The most important piece was a minute repeating wristwatch in yellow gold with the Graves family coat-of-arms on the back, the twin of the platinum example that is now in the Patek Philippe Museum. The remaining eight wristwatches were purchased between 1941 and 1951. This group comprised a Ref. 1436 split-seconds chronograph, a jumbo sized platinum rectangular wristwatch and several time-only Calatrava examples, each in virtually untouched condition. The discovery of the entire collection – both Mr. Graves' and Mr. Fullerton's – created much excitement, especially given their provenance and condition. All of the wristwatches were hotly contested and exceeded their high estimates.



17 8 29 25 28 34 24 27

KNOWN WATCHES FOR THE HENRY GRAVES, JR. COLLECTION

ITEM NUMBER	DATE OF PRODUCTION	DATE OF DELIVERY	DESCRIPTION	MOVEMENT NO.	PRESENT LOCATION	COAT OF ARMS
1	1912	1926	18k YG Two-Train Trip Repeating Watch	157427	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	Fullerton
2	1917	1922	18k YG Observatory Tourbillon Watch, First Prize	174680	unknown	Graves
3	1920	1925	18k YG Observatory Watch, Second Prize	190977	unknown	Graves
4	1919	1929	Silver Observatory Watch with Up-Down Indicator	191401	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	none
5	1919	1926	18k Observatory Watch with Up-Down, First Prize	178448	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
6	1919	1926	18k Observatory Grand Complication	174961	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
7	1925	1928	18k $20 Coin Watch	812471	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	none
8	1895	1927	18k YG Tonneau Minute Repeating Wristwatch	97589	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	Graves
9	1914	1926	18k YG Observatory Watch	170358	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	Graves
10	1911	1927	18k YG hunter Cased Minute Repeater	157041	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	none
11	1925	1927	18k Openface Grand Complication	198052	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
12	1925	1927	Large Silver Perpetual Calendar Desk Timepiece	198048	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
13	1928	1929	18k YG Observatory Watch, First Prize	191000	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
14	1926	1929	Platinum Observatory Watch, First Prize	191016	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
15	1925	1929	Platinum Observatory Watch with Up-Down, First Prize	198050	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
16	1927	1929	Platinum Cushion Minute Repeating Wristwatch	198095	Private Collection	Graves
17	1928	1929	Large Platinum Tonneau Minute Repeating Wristwatch	198212	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
18	1908	1930	Platinum Observatory Watch, First Prize	147623	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
19	1929	1930	Platinum Observatory Tourbillon Watch, First Prize	198310	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
20	1930	1930	Platinum Tonneau Minute Repeating Wristwatch	198378	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
21	**1928**	**1933**	**The Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication**	**198385**	**Present Lot**	**Graves [on box]**
22	1930	1934	Platinum Observatory Tourbillon Watch, First Prize	198310	Patek Philippe Museum	none
23	1930	1934	Platinum Observatory Tourbillon Watch, First Prize	198311	Private Collection	Graves
24	1940	1941	Platinum Ref. 96 Wristwatch	920090	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	Graves
25	1942	1947	Platinum Massive Rectangular Wristwatch	922902	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	none
26	1931	1945	Platinum Observatory Tourbillon	198427	Private Collection	Graves
27	1946	1947	18k YG Ref. 565 Wristwatch	928975	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	none
28	1946	1946	18k YG Ref. 1543 Wristwatch	929240	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	none
29	1946	1947	18k YG Split Seconds Ref. 1436	863787	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	none
30	1947	1947	18k YG Perpetual Calendar Ref. 1518 Wristwatch	867082	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
31	1944	1947	YG Worldtime Ref. 605	930530	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
32	1944	1947	Platinum Perpetual Calendar Ref. 725	930539	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
33	1947	1947	18k Ref. 2425 Wristwatch	951075	Patek Philippe Museum	Graves
34	1946	1948	18k YG Ref. 1491 Center Seconds Wristwatch	864904	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	none
35	1951	1951	18k YG Ref. 565 Center Seconds Wristwatch	700710	Sold June 2012 at Sotheby's	none
36	1926	1927	Clockwatch ship bell chronometer, two up-down incadtor	198061	unknown	
37	1925	1928	Equation, sunet-rise, sky chart, double face, chronometer	198025	unknown	
38	1925	1937	1st pr. Platinum Golay Tourbillon regulated by Modoux	198015	unknown	
39	1913	1933	18k YG Observatory Wtach with Up Down Indication	177483	unknown	

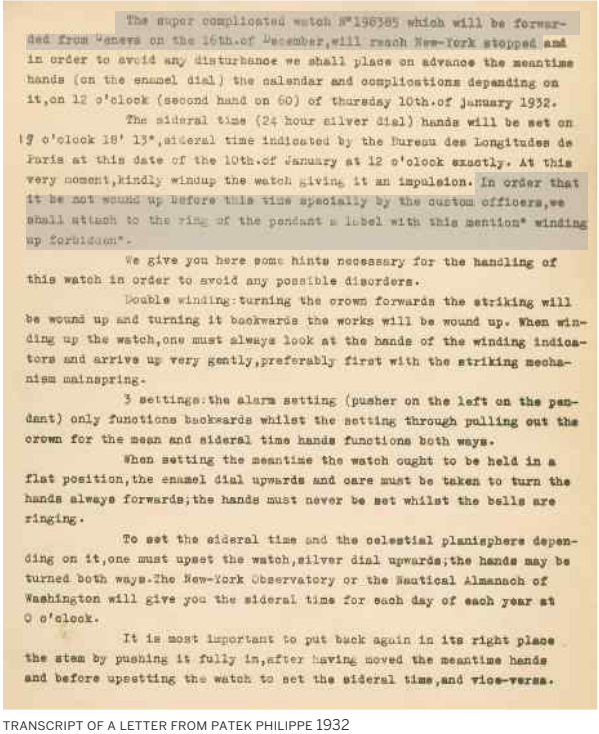
THE COMMISSION



In 1925 when Henry Graves, Jr. commissioned Patek Philippe to make him the Supercomplication, it is believed that the approach was made via Tiffany & Co. in New York and was a project that would eventually take almost eight years to complete (Perman 183). The complexity of the order required planning, study and experiment on an unprecedented scale. To realize the construction of this watch, Patek Philippe engaged the services of many of the finest Swiss watchmakers, astronomers and mathematicians of the first half of the 20th century.

Once the design of the watch had taken shape, detailed drawings were sent to Mr. Graves and were returned duly marked: "Design Approved by Henry Graves, Jr." Upon completion, the watch was rigorously tested for five months and was finally shipped from Geneva on 16th December 1932. The watch was stopped and all complications were advanced to the date and time of 12 o'clock on the 10th January [1933], to prepare for its arrival in America. The watch was submitted to customs with a label stating: "Winding Up Forbidden", in the hope that the watch would not be meddled with` during its shipment. Instructions were then provided for the watch to be wound precisely at the aforementioned time by Patek Philippe's agent in New York, together with further detailed instructions for the watch's operation and adjustment. Surviving transcripts of the period show that the watch was returned to Patek Philippe for a repair sometime during the following three years, after which it was sent once more to Mr. Graves in April 1935. For shipping, the watch was stopped and all complications advanced to the date and time of 12 noon on 1st April 1935. This time, rather than having a label forbidding customs from winding the watch, Patek Philippe 'protected' the winding crown, preventing it from being wound during transit. Further instructions for the watch's operation were again supplied.

"The super complicated watch No. 198385 which will be forwarded from Geneva on the 16th of December."
- Patek Philippe, 1932



The super complicated watch N°198385 which will be forwarded from Geneva on the 16th.of December,will reach New-York stopped and in order to avoid any disturbance we shall place on advance the meantime hands (on the enamel dial) the calendar and complications depending on it,on 12 o'clock (second hand on 60) of thursday 10th.of January 1932.

The sideral time (24 hour silver dial) hands will be set on 19 o'clock 18' 13",sideral time indicated by the Bureau des Longitudes de Paris at this date of the 10th.of January at 12 o'clock exactly. At this very moment,kindly windup the watch giving it an impulsion. In order that it be not wound up before this time specially by the custom officers,we shall attach to the ring of the pendant a label with this mention" winding up forbidden"-

We give you here some hints necessary for the handling of this watch in order to avoid any possible disorders.

Double winding:turning the crown forwards the striking will be wound up and turning it backwards the works will be wound up. When winding up the watch,one must always look at the hands of the winding indicators and arrive up very gently,preferably first with the striking mechanism mainspring.

3 settings:the alarm setting (pusher on the left on the pendant) only functions backwards whilst the setting through pulling out the crown for the mean and sideral time hands functions both ways.

When setting the meantime the watch ought to be held in a flat position,the enamel dial upwards and care must be taken to turn the hands always forwards;the hands must never be set whilst the bells are ringing.

To set the sidsral time and the celestial planisphere depending on it,one must upset the watch,silver dial upwards;the hands may be turned both ways.The New-York Observatory or the Nautical Almanach of Washington will give you the sideral time for each day of each year at 0 o'clock.

It is most important to put back again in its right place the stem by pushing it fully in,after having moved the meantime hands and before upsetting the watch to set the sideral time,and vice-versa.

TRANSCRIPT OF A LETTER FROM PATEK PHILIPPE 1932



RENDERING OF THE MEAN TIME DIAL

COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA


JOURNAL SUISSE D'HORLOGE
MADE FOR
HENRY GRAVES JR
NEW-YORK 1932
BY
PATEK, PHILIPPE & CIE GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
SOUTH
EAST
WEST
NORTH
SIDEREAL TIME
EQUATION
SUNRISE
SUNSET

A wealth of documents charting the construction, delivery, usage and ownership transfer of the Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication survive.

Please note that these documents are not included with the sale of the present lot.


DESCRIPTION DE LA MONTRE No. 198385

à double face, comprenant les complications suivantes

Grande sonnerie à minutes à 4 marteaux, chronog
trapante, avec compteurs d'heures et de 60 minut
mes perpétuels avec phase de lune, réveil, le
coucher du soleil, carte céleste, équation d
développements de ressort, heure sidérale.

Dimensions :
Boîte or 18k., diamètre 732/10
épaisseur sur glaces 350/1
poids 415

Description extérieure :

Pour retoucher le réglage, on trouve sous la lun
rale un petit index correspondant à des degrés gr
la carrure, qui aboutit et conduit la raquette de
spéciale, placée sur le coq.

Le quantième fixé sur la platine d'acier, du côté
moyen, est à mécanisme non instantané à cause du p
des disques. Les 7 jours et les 12 mois sont sur di
paraissant dans des guichets ; les 31 jours sont ma
par une aiguille sous la petite seconde.

3 poussoirs font avancer la lune, le 31 et le 7, cette dernière
au dessus de la lettre S gravée sur la carrure.

Genève, le 5/11/69
JPB/gs

PATEK PHILIPPE
MANUFACTURE D'HORLOGERIE
GENÈVE

TÉLÉPHONE 24 93 43
ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE : PATEKPHILIPPE, GENÈVE
COMPTE DE CHÈQUES POSTAUX : 12-1892

GENÈVE, le 17th November 1969.

M.r. Seth G. ATWOOD
1400 Eddy Avenue
ROCKFORD - Ill.

DOIT

POUR LES MARCHANDISES CI-APRÈS PAYABLES EN FRANCS SUISSES A GENÈV

EXPÉDIÉES PAR

FACTURE N° 8383

A Sidereal Day is equal to 23 hours, 56 minutes,
is equivalant to 86,164.09 seconds.
It has 24 S.H. 60 S.Min. 60 S.Sec. and is measured from the time uni-
formly by the
plete rotati
Sideres
from the
length i
(20) mi

Sidereal
otation of the earth as referred to a star. One com-
the period called the Sidereal Day.
ch the Suns center departing eastward
eturns to the same. It's
as. It is about twent

No.198385

We remind you that it is necessary to take some prec
One ought always to look at the winding indicator hands in
spring stop works,which had happened for the striking mainsp
stopping of the watch.
We have left it stopped and fixed on advance on the ls
at 12 o'clock (day not night) meantime at 24h.35'40" sides
Annuaire du Bureau des Longitudes.
We have protected the winding crown in order that nobody
run before that date.
On the 1st of April at 12 o'clock exactly you will wind it
winding the movement)giving it oscillation.The striking train is al
One has to pay the greatest attention,if the watch stops bec
wound up(winding indicator hand on down)and to be certain(by looking
ng train is wound up. Otherwise it ma
its place,which would prevent to move
nism has been a little wound up it wil
e bolt of the striking,and after the
r backwards

The super complicated watch N°198385 which will be forwar-
ded from Geneva on the 16th.of December,will reach New-York stopped and
in order to avoid any disturbance we shall place on advance the meantime
hands (on the enamel dial) the calendar and complications depending on
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The sideral time (24 hour silver dial) hands will be set on
19 o'clock 18' 13",sideral time indicated by the Bureau des Longitudes de
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very moment,kindly windup the watch giving it an impulsion. In order that
it be not wound up before this time specially by the custom officers,we
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ringing.
To set the sideral time and the celestial plan
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turned both ways.The New-York Observatory or the Nautical A
Washington will give you the sideral time for each day of
0 o'clock.
It is most important to put back again in its
the stem by pushing it fully in,after having moved the meant
and before upsetting the watch to set the sideral time,and

The full striking has 4 different bells and strikes on passin
at each quarter,the hours and quarters or only the quarters and the hour
according to the lever being placed on O.S.or on L.S. Another lever place
on the other side of the center piece allows the striking or the silent
(S.or O.).
To let strike at will the hours quarters and minutes,one has
to push the lever placed between four and five o'clock (looking at the ena
mel dial)
The alarm has its special bell and is wound up by a lever
placed between 2 and 3 o'clock which is to be pushed 8 or 9 times in the
direction of the pendant.
The chronograph is put in motion by the button on the crown,
and the flying backhand by the pusher on the left of the alarm pusher,bet-
ween 10 and 11 o'clock.
The calendar and the moon are put in motion by 3 pushers,
hidden flush on the center piece. The moon pusher is at the right of the
pendant,the 7 day pusher (put in addition as a security) near the lever
S.and O.,the 31 day pusher,a little lower in front of the 39th.minute.
This last one is most important as it is used for jumping the days,the da-
tes,the months,the sunrises and sunsets and the equation of time. However
at certain moments of the day these pushers are not in condition to be mo-
ved as the calendar and the moon are griping:for the months of 31 days:
from 21 o'clock to 0 o'clock 30' and for the other months from 19 o'clock
30 minutes to 0.30 o.clock.
The adjusting through the regulator can only be made by opening
the bezel of the sideral side;one will put in motion an index confining to
the engraving made near the hinge.
In case of stopping of the watch because it was not wound up,
it is to be proceeded as follows:wind up both ways and let strike through
the lever;then put the calendar in place by the pusher of 31 days one or
two days before the one on which it is to be placed and finish the re-
maining number of days and hours through the hand setting;in this way mid-
day and midnight will easely be determinated after the jumping of the
calendar.
In spite of numerous trials and revisions of all these com-

PATEK PHILIPPE
Les Maîtres
de
l'Horlogerie

lications,and alt
uring which we obs
he cause of which is very difficult to be determinated as both
revent to see the interior of the watch.
Nevertheless to see the oscillations of the balance we
hole as big as possible under 14 and 15 o'clock in the rim of th
dial and in the plate which it sustains;this hole is visible on ope
he bezel;it will allow to see whether the balance staff is brokan
f not,to try to put again in motion the watch,one may proceed as fo
erify whether the meantime hour hand is lose,and after having moved
larm hand,give an impulsion to the watch.If it is not sufficiant,let
e through the lever and when the striking is over,let move the hands
wards through the handsetting. If these trials do not succeed
e better to send us back the watch,so that we co
urselves;in fact it would be very im
atchmaker who has not made a
lace all these diffe

given satisfaction since
unforeseen stopping may

Mr. Thomas H. Graf
Patek-Philippe, S. A.
Quai General Guisan 22
Geneva, Switzerland.

Dear Tom:

It certainly has been a long time since I received your good letter. As a matter of fact, it was December of last year and I find very embarrassing. Please forgive me. Since that time I have been married, gone on a honeymoon in Morocco, and changed apartments New York. Those are just a few excuses for the delay.

It was really great to see you when you were here for the show must admit I was interested in what you had to

ning a California

you can see by th

intend

caution on winding

order not to force

ring, and has caused

t.of April 1935.

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PATEK PHILIPPE
GENEVE
CABLE: PATEK NEW YORK
COLORADO 5-6155

PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVE
INTERNATIONAL OF SCHAFFHAUSEN

May 17, 1960

lerton Jr.
nue

ere is your watch!

e hope you will be very proud
out it.

it regards,

rs sincerely,

HENRI
MANUFACTURE D'HORLOGERIE
EK, PHILIPPE & Cº S.A.
GENÈVE

ECTION



What working the calendar

What of the moonphase, indication on the dial

What working the calendar

What of the moonphase

Stars bearing the constellations

Stars bearing the zodiac

Pointer bearing the sidereal hour

What working the sidereal hour

Pointer bearing the month

What if a, for February 29

What working the calendar

What of the moonphase

Stars bearing the constellations

Stars bearing the zodiac

Pointer bearing the sidereal hour

What working the sidereal hour

Pointer bearing the month

What if a, for February 29

...uair I might listen to you.

All of the above are
a letter and (2) if there was
it, understanding that the pot
thank you."

I do hope your family are all fine and I especially hope you
give your father-in-law my best. If you get over this way in the near
future, do give a call. I would love to see you again.

Sincerely,

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

The undersigned, PATEK PHILIPPE & CO., certify herewith that Patek Philippe watch bearing movement No. 198'385, was especially manufactured for Mr. Henry Graves Jr., and was delivered to him in 1933.

We now classify this particular watch as a collector's item, and as the only one of its kind. It is known as the world's most complicated watch, and it is generally admitted that it cannot be reproduced anymore, and therefore is irreplaceable.

We evaluate this timepiece today at Sw. Fr. 100'000.-- (a hundred thousands of swiss francs) for insurance purposes.

PATEK PHILIPPE & CO.

Henri STERN, President

Geneva, December 23rd, 1960.

eginald H. Fullerton Jr.,
Fifth Avenue,
YORK, 28 N.Y.
S. A.

ear Pete,

We would like to refer to the Certificate for your I surance of the very complicated watch in your possession.

Please find enclosed herewith this paper, and we hope that you will be able to get an Insurance for this watch on an interesting policy.

Should you decide to have this watch cleaned, please note that we have informed the Henri Stern Watch Agency of the possible cost, and we would like you to discuss this matter with Mr. Buhl or Mr. Sonn.

I hope that your perpetual calendar, which ught in Switzerland last Summer, is performing to e satisfaction, and that you are happy with it.

A New Year has started, and I would like you the very best for 1961, and I surely hope t have the pleasure of meeting you again during

Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

PATEK PHILIPP

Thomas H. GR

REGINALD H. FULLERT
THE DORMERS
WATCH HILL, RI 0289

January 21,

HILIPPE
s à Genève depuis 1839
Geneva, January 15, 196

lerton, Jr.

pany

Dear Pete,

We have received an inquiry from anot
customer who is interested in your watch. He
would be willing to pay quite a high price, so
is his address in case you are interested:

Mr. Seth G. Atwood
ood Vacuum Machine Compa
ddy Avenue
llinois 61101

are not
inf

Mr. Seth G. Atwood
Chairman of the Board
Atwood Vacuum Machine Company
1400 Eddy Avenue
Rockford, Illinois 61101

Dear Seth,

First of all, let me thank you
February 21 and also point out that you
the one to have to apologize. Kathy's go
kept himself up all night but also you, a
back to Rockford, Illinois in one piece is
sion. As a matter of fact I was not at all
dead or alive the next day and only partial
one.

We were delighted to have you and
hear from you again so that we can at least
some time when you are in New York. I hope
reaches you that you have had a fine trip t
fitable business and pleasant relazation

Sincerely,

PATEK PHILIPPE
Maîtres Horlogers à Genève

Geneva,

Mr. Reginald H. Fullerton, Jr.
Vice President
Bankers' Trust Company
280 Park Avenue
NEW YORK, N.Y.
U. S. A.

ear Pete,

Mr. Seth G. Atwood of Rockford, Illinois,
s written to us again concerning the complicated
mepiece which is in your possession.

Since this gentleman appears genuinely
terested in purchasing this watch, I finall
cided to give him your address in orde
ght handle the affair directly
ll most probably be getti
e near future.

5 months
happen
dials

have made
e sideral
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one nowhere, and there
re having lunch and a
to discover that your
gical skills.

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ee lunch-which of c

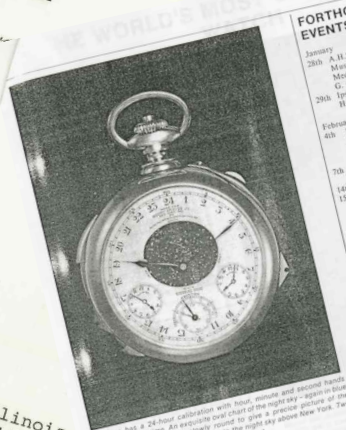
you two have a grea
characteristic obvi
is flattery is to support t
great letters.

ppropriate to dispense with the fir
letter and begin here.

ights after our lunch I woke up with a start and sa
damned fool, you have just parted with one more and cl
speaking, to the last of your Graves heritage". Coming fr
ctor at heart who is also a sentimentalist this was quite upsett
ially so at 3 in the morning.

Once I shook out the oob webs, I began to realize that I was further
my own collection of Patek wrist watches and providing financial support
and a means for adding to it. The hardest part of disposing of any of
Grandfather's is that they are irreplaceable and so many had been made
for him.

However, does one
he has put together fo
a little of both, which



This face has a 24-hour calibration with hour, minute and second hands showing sidereal time. An eye-catching oval chart of the night sky - signs of the zodiac and gold stars slowly rotate to give a precise picture of the constellations exactly as they appear in the night sky above New York. Two arc-shaped stars give the times of sunrise and sunset.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

January
28th A.H.S. meeting at the Science Museum, 6.15 for 6.45 p.m.: Medieval Clock Music, by A. W. T. Ord-Hume.
29th Ipswich Branch dinner, Cedars Hotel, Stowmarket, 7.30 for 8 p.m.

February
4th R.H.I. Council meeting at the Royal Commonwealth Society, 2 p.m., followed by an Extraordinary General Meeting at 4.30 p.m.
7th Exhibition Centre (until 11th).
14th Blackpool Gifts Fair (until 18th).
15th Merseyside Branch meeting, Merchant Navy Hotel, Liverpool, 8 p.m.: John Harrison and his Clocks.
21st Scottish Gifts Fair (until 25th).
23rd Ipswich Branch meeting, Friends Meeting House, Ipswich, 7.30 p.m.: A.G.M. and Tool Sale.
25th A.H.S. meeting at the Science Museum, 6.15 for 6.45 p.m.: film, British Clocks.

March
6th A.H.S. Turret Group meeting, Science Museum: Some Repro-ductions of very old Clocks, by Mr. P. N. Haward.
12th Lincoln Branch meeting, Horncastle Residential College.
Burlington House Fair, Piccadilly, London (until 21st).
15th Merseyside Branch meeting, at 8 p.m. (subject to confirmation): A Few Restoration Projects, by Mr. J. Arnfield.
16th R.H.I. Council meeting, Talk and Hob, 10.30 a.m.
23rd Ipswich Branch meeting, by Beech, of Swaffham, a demonstration in Science Museum.
25th A.H.S. meeting at Science Museum, London, 6.15 p.m. for 6.45 p.m.

THE WORLD'S MOST COM
WATCH

In the early 1920s, an American collector, Henry Graves Junior, ordered a watch from Patek Philippe in Geneva, which incorporated the greatest number of horological complications ever put together in a single pocket watch movement.

It took the company five years to design and make this fascinating masterpiece, known as the Grande Complication No. 198385, not counting the two additional years spent on astronomical, mathematical & technical studies before any practical work could go ahead.

Visiningly, the watch looks very little than a large pocket watch but it ll over a pound (535 grams). The ts: two main dials, eight alone contains around 900 two date discs, 110 wheels, hands, 430 screws, 120 70 jewels covering the e disc showing the d a complete moving stellations as they emisphere.

in One
an tell the range of e very metres



THE HENRY GRAVES JR. SUPERCOMPLICATION

PATEK PHILIPPE & Co., Geneva, No. 198.385, Case No. 416.769, started in 1925, completed in 1932 and delivered on 19th January 1933

A gold, double dialled and double open-faced, minute repeating clockwatch with Westminster chimes, grande and petite sonnerie, split seconds chronograph, registers for 60-minutes and 12-hours, perpetual calendar accurate to the year 2100, moon-phases, equation of time, dual power reserve for striking and going trains, mean and sidereal time, central alarm, indications for times of sunrise/sunset and a celestial chart for the night time sky of New York City at 40 degrees 41.0 minutes North latitude

Accompanied by the original fitted tulipwood box inlaid with ebony and centered by a mother-of-pearl panel engraved with the arms of Henry Graves, Jr. Also accompanied by the *Patek Philippe Certificate of Origin* and an *Extract from the Archives of Patek Philippe*.

The Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication movement is unique. Patek Philippe ensured that each complication was designed specifically for this watch. Complex watch movements usually consisted of complications that were added to a simpler base calibre, however, the Supercomplication's calibre was developed specifically for this single watch. The Supercomplication required the expertise of some of the finest watchmakers of the period, each skilled in the execution of particular components. These master makers had to work together to ensure that all complications within the watch were seamlessly combined with one another and presented in a case and with a dial of the finest design. After all, this watch was no mere flight of fancy; it was a special order and had to please its patron. This unique collaboration resulted in a watch that was not only the most complex in the world, but was also a timepiece of exceptional aesthetic beauty.


WATCH MANUFACTORY
Established in 1839
PATEK PHILIPPE & Co.
S.A.
GENEVA
Highest Awards since 1844
CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN & WARRANTY
for
the watch N° 198'385
Double faced, Supercomplicated watch
25 lines, stemwinder, lever escapement, compensated balance
70 jewels, enameled & gold silvered dials
The case is open face
made of 18 carat gold
The movement and the case were made in our manufac
and we warrant their superior finish
Watch Manufactory
PATEK PHILIP
The pocket-watch, being of very delicate mechanism, and nevertheless, required to be constan going, should be submitted to the following management to work well: —
1. Keep the watch free from dust, damp, the evaporation of acids and from excess of temperature whether hot or cold. — 2. Never expose the works to the air except when it is necessary to regulate the watch. — 3. If, from any cause, the case should not shut tight get it repaired without delay. — 4. Have the watch properly cleaned every two years, for though the watch may do without it, its regularity is impeded and its mechanism injured by the want of oil. — 5. A watch, regulated to be worn, will go faster, when left in a state of rest. — 6. Regulate your watch on a good regulator, for clocks seldom go correctly. — 7. When travelling, attention must be paid to the meridian time. — 8. When after the watch has been in wear some time, a slight variation begins to be observable, set to time without regulating. — 9. Wind up your watch DAILY at the SAME HOUR. Do this cautiously. Hold the watch still when winding. — A watch should always be kept going.
THE WATCHES OF OUR INVENTION WHICH ARE WOUND UP AND SET TO TIME WITHOUT A KEY, by means of a simple and durable mechanism are very convenient for use and last longer; for as it is not necessary to open them, the dust and damp cannot get in and the oil does not coagulate so soon. — *To wind up the watch*, turn between the finger and thumb to the right, the milled knob upon the stem; stop as soon as you meet with a slight resistance, as in winding up with a key. — *To set to time*, draw out the said knob till you feel it disengaged by a slight jerk. Then, by turning to right or left, the hands are moved backward or forward; as soon as they are on the hour required, push the into its place.

THE TIMEKEEPING FUNCTIONS

The hours, minutes and seconds of mean time	-
The hours, minutes and seconds of sidereal time	3
The time of sunset and sunrise	2
The equation of time	1

THE CALENDAR FUNCTIONS

The perpetual calendar	1
The day of the month	1
The days of the week	1
The months	1
The stars chart	1
The age and phases of the moon	1

THE CHRONOGRAPH FUNCTIONS

The Chronograph	1
Split seconds	1
The 30 minute recorder	1
The 12 hour recorder	1

THE CHIME

The "Grande sonnerie" with carillon	1
The "Petite sonnerie" with carillon	1
The minute-repeater	1
The alarm	1

OTHER WATCH FUNCTIONS

The going train up-down indication	1
The striking train up/down indication	1
The twin barrel differential winding	1
The three-way setting system	1
NUMBER OF COMPLICATIONS	**24**



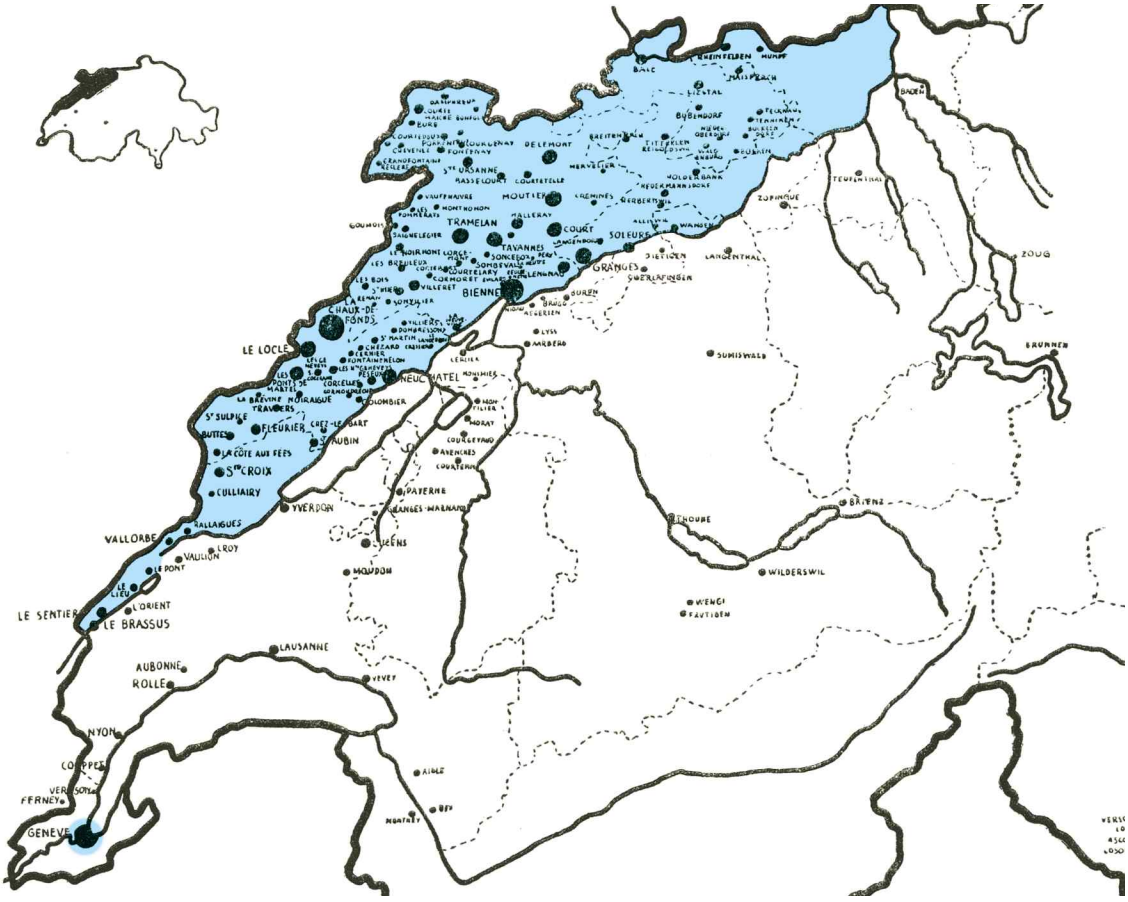

ESSE QUAM VIDERI
MADE FOR
HENRY GRAVES JR
NEW-YORK 1932
BY
PATEK, PHILIPPE & Cº GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
SOUTH
WEST
EAST
NORTH
SIDERAL TIME
EQUATION
SUNRISE
SUNSET


Established in 1839
PATEK PHILIPPE & Co.
S.A.
GENEVA
Highest Awards since 184
CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN & WAR
for
1 2 8 3 8 5
supercomplicated

THE CONTRIBUTING MAKERS

Whilst the Supercomplication was in production, the Wall Street Crash of 1929 and the ensuing worldwide economic downturn had a severe impact on the Swiss watch making industry. Fortuitously, Mr. Graves was not greatly affected financially by the Crash and his support of the Swiss watch industry proved of great importance. Indeed, the 60,000 SF ($15,000) cost of the Supercomplication provided an important lifeline to Patek Philippe and the watchmakers and artisans they charged with its construction.

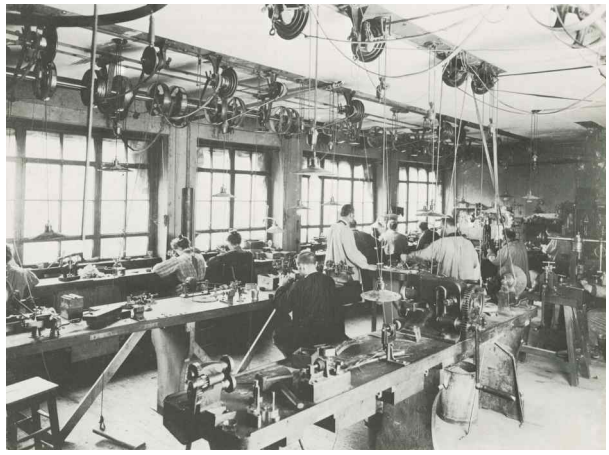
The watchmakers designing the Supercomplication were free to design an entirely unique movement and were therefore able to ensure that every possible space within the movement was used as efficiently as possible. This ensured that the dimensions of the movement, and ultimately the entire watch, were not excessive. Only the best materials were used in the construction of the Supercomplication with no restriction on cost. Indeed, several parts made from platinum and gold can be found within the movement. Victorin Piguet at Le Fils de Victorin Piguet in Le Brassus managed much of the work involved in producing the watch. Le Fils de Victorin Piguet, founded in the late 19th century, specialized in the production of complicated watches, blank movements and dial trains. At the time of the Supercomplication's construction, the business was under the leadership of Jean Piguet and his father Victorin Piguet.



MAP OF VALLÉE DE JOUX © TECHNIQUE + HISTORY OF THE SWISS WATCH, URS GRAF-VERLAG, 1953

A LIST OF MAKERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE MAKING OF THE SUPERCOMPLICATION

Maker	Location	Role	Details
Victorin Piguet and Jean Piguet	Le Brassus	Project Managers	After the crown, glasses and hands were made in Geneva in coordination with Patek Philippe, Victorin Piguet and Luc Rochat, the case was sent to Geneva where it was stamped with the Geneva goldmark *"G."*
Luc Rochat	L'Abbaye and Geneva	Case	
Juste Aubert	Bioux-Dessus	Winding	
Michel Piguet	Le Brassus	Grande Sonnerie and Westminster	
Charles Rochat	Chez Grosjean	Movement and chronograph arbors	
Louis Rochat-Benoit	Les Bioux	Split-second chronograph	
Paul-Auguste Golay	Le Sentier	Perpetual Calendar, equation and sunrise/sunset	
Henri-Daniel Piguet	Le Sentier	Time setting	
David Nicole and Paul Piguet	Le Sentier	Finishing	
Stern Frères	Geneva	Dials	Enamel dial, silvered-gold and both dial plates for the moon-phase and sky chart



WATCH MAKERS AT WORK IN PATEK PHILIPPE STUDIOS
COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA



JEAN VICTORIN PIGUET COURTESY OF A PRIVATE COLLECTION



HENRI-DANIEL PIGUET COURTESY OF A PRIVATE COLLECTION

SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR FUNCTIONS

Perpetual Calendar with Moon-Phases

The perpetual calendar shows the correct day of the week, date of the month and month of the year regardless of the length of the month. It also automatically adjusts for the leap year. The aperture for moon-phases shows the correct phase and age of the moon.

Since the duration of the Solar year is 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 48 seconds and the mean year is 365 days, an extra year is added every four years (leap year) and a further adjustment is made with the omission of a leap year every four centuries. According to the Gregorian calendar reforms of 1582, century years that are divisible by 400 without remainder are to be considered leap years. Consequently, the perpetual calendar of the Supercomplication will be accurate until the year 2100, when the calendar will need to be readjusted for the first time.

The Westminster Chimes, Repeater and Alarm

Grande Sonnerie with Westminster chimes. Selected via a slide on the case band, this function strikes the hours and quarters at every quarter. The five gongs hammer for the carillon are separate from the alarm.

Petite Sonnerie selected via the slide on the case band, this function strikes the passing quarter hours.

Minute Repeater Selected on demand via the case band, the watch strikes the passing quarter hours and minutes.

The Westminster chime, made famous by the Westminster London clock popularly known as 'Big Ben,' was first used in St. Mary's Church, Cambridge in 1793. The chime tune itself was taken from the fifth bar of Handel's aria from the Messiah, "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

Split Seconds Chronograph

The split seconds chronograph can be used to time up to two events at the same time. The chronograph is started, stopped and reset via the pusher at the center of the winding crown. When the chronograph is running, the split pusher which is located in the case band between 10 and 11 o'clock (when looking at the mean time dial) can be pressed to stop one of the central chronograph seconds hands, leaving the other to continue alone. Whilst the chronograph is running, minutes elapsed will be counted on the subsidiary dial to the right and hours to the left on the mean time dial.

Sidereal Time and Equation of Time

The Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication has hours, minutes and seconds of sidereal time, the time of sunrise and sunset (calibrated for New York City) and the equation of time. This sidereal complication requires a transmission ratio of exactly 1.0027379092, which is driven by a 62 tooth wheel on the arbor of the fourth wheel.

Sidereal time is based on the amount of time it takes the Earth to make two consecutive transitions of a meridian by a fixed star. By measuring the transits of a fixed star, one is able to measure the actual time it takes for the Earth to turn on its axis. This period of time is known as a sidereal day which is approximately 23 hours, 56 minutes and 4.1 seconds.

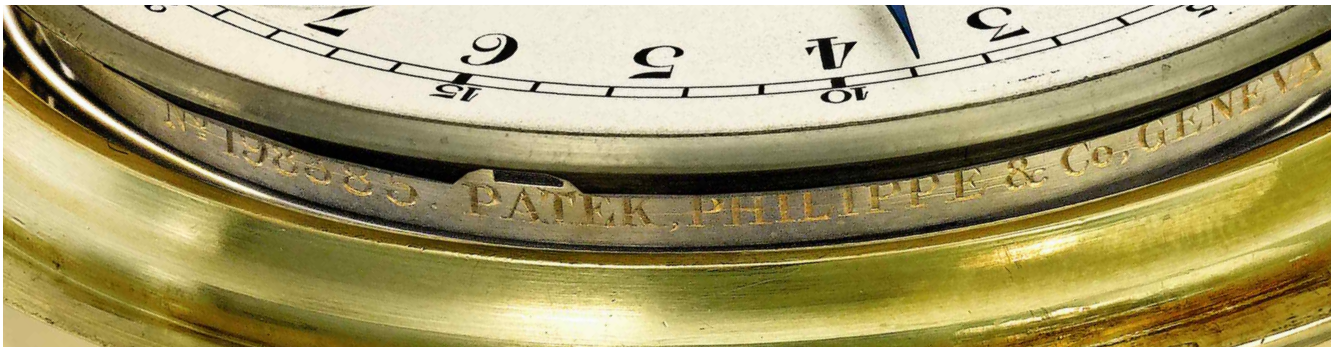
The equation of time indicator on the Supercomplication watch is calibrated to show the difference between apparent solar time (the time as indicated by a sundial) and mean time (the average of solar time). Since the Earth is in an elliptical orbit, the difference between mean and solar time ranges from plus 14 minutes 59 seconds to minus 16 minutes 15 seconds. Solar time agrees with mean time on or about 15th April, 15th June, 31st August, and 24th December.

The Supercomplication watch indicates the equation of time on a sector-shaped scale with calibrations for plus/minus 17 minutes. The equation of time mechanism is driven by an arbor that protrudes through the movement from the calendar mechanism.

The spelling 'sideral' on the dial of the watch is the French form of the word; the English spelling being 'sidereal.'

The Star Chart

The Supercomplication's star chart rotates anti-clockwise behind the oval aperture of the dial. The shape of the aperture allows one to see the night sky as seen from New York City, complete with magnitudes of the stars and the Milky Way.




MADE FOR
HENRY GRAVES JR
NEW-YORK 1932
BY
PATEK, PHILIPPE & Co GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
SOUTH
WEST
EAST
NORTH
SUNRISE
SUNSET
SIDERAL TIME
EQUATION

THE DIALS



COURTESY OF WWW.ERICTORTELLA.COM



COURTESY OF WWW.ERICTORTELLA.COM

The two dials of the Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication were uniquely designed for the watch and were ordered from Stern Frères S.A., arguably the finest dial maker in the world. It is interesting to note that, whilst the two dials were being designed and constructed for the Supercomplication, the Stern family was on the cusp of taking over Patek Philippe & Co. Indeed, by the time the Supercomplication was finally delivered to Henry Graves, Jr. himself, Charles and Jean Stern were managing Patek Philippe as its news owners.

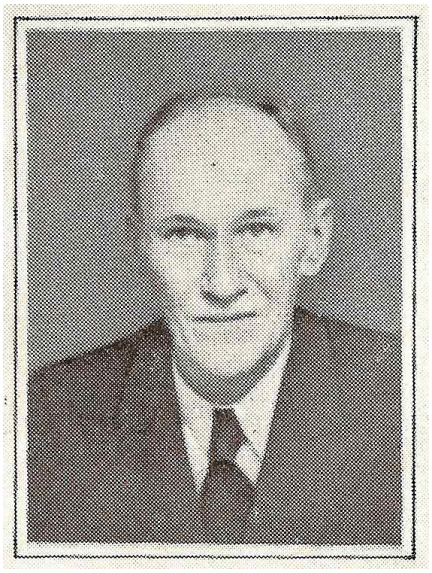
The Stern Frères /Patek Philippe collaboration on the Supercomplication is especially poignant since one can imagine the Sterns' pride as the new owners of Patek Philippe, knowing that, not only were they taking over the finest watchmaker in the world, but also the company that had conceived and built the world's most complicated watch with the Stern family's own dials.

Despite the extreme complexity of the watch, each dial is perfectly balanced and all complications displayed are clear and easy to read. Indeed, the aesthetic beauty of the each dial is an extraordinary achievement which, once again, demonstrates the successful and unique collaboration by all those involved in the watch's construction.

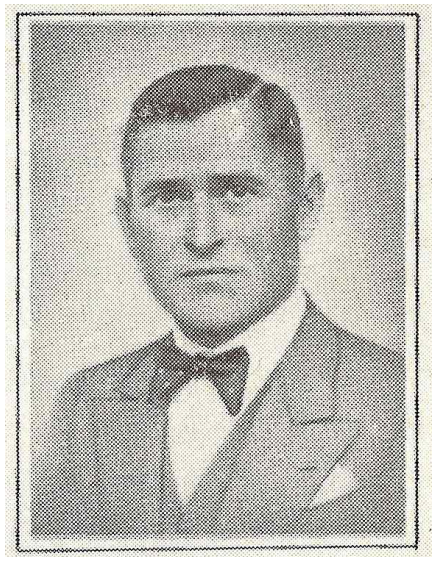
Stern Frères S.A.

The Stern family, originally from Gurzelen, a town situated at the foot of the Bernese Alps, arrived in Geneva around 1895. Henri Stern had served his apprenticeship in Saint-Imier with Zelim Jacot, among others and specialised in painting numerals on enamel. Quickly earning himself an excellent reputation for making high quality dials, he began working for important horologists in Geneva. In 1898, the Stern family opened their first workshop on the rue Céard. Henri died in December 1902 of influenza. His sons Charles-Henri and Raoul-Edouard took over running the company after his death. Raoul later left in 1914 to found his own jewellery workshop, at which point Jean (II) joined to help his brother.

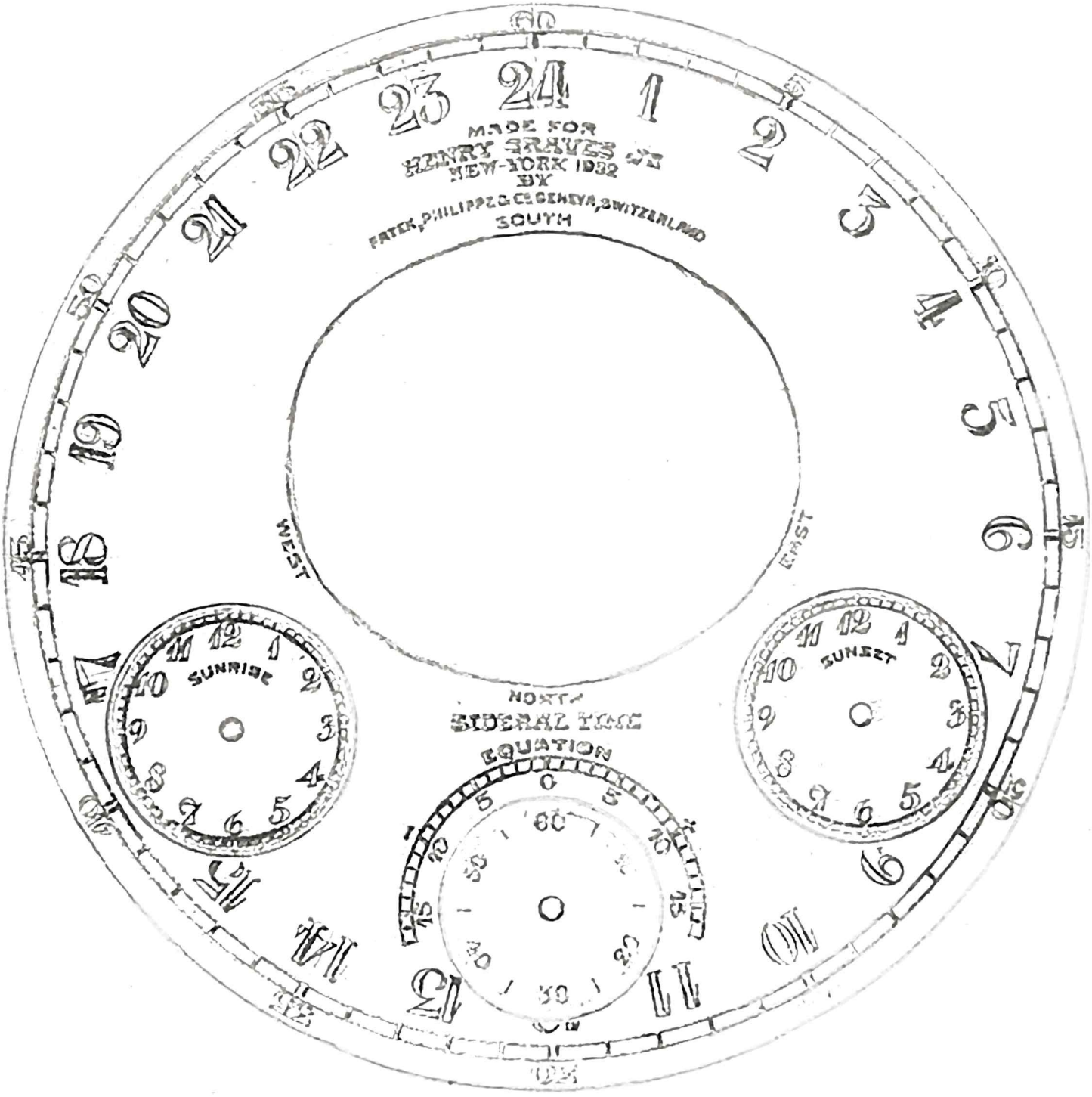
At the suggestion of their mother Louise, Charles and Jean took on a new challenge and in 1931 they decided to take over Patek Philippe which was on the verge of being absorbed by LeCoultre. The Sterns knew the company well; they had been one of their best clients for over thirty years. Charles and Jean left the running of their flourishing dial factory to Jean's children, Charles and Marcel Stern.



CHARLES STERN COURTESY OF WWW.ERICTORTELLA.COM



JEAN STERN COURTESY OF WWW.ERICTORTELLA.COM

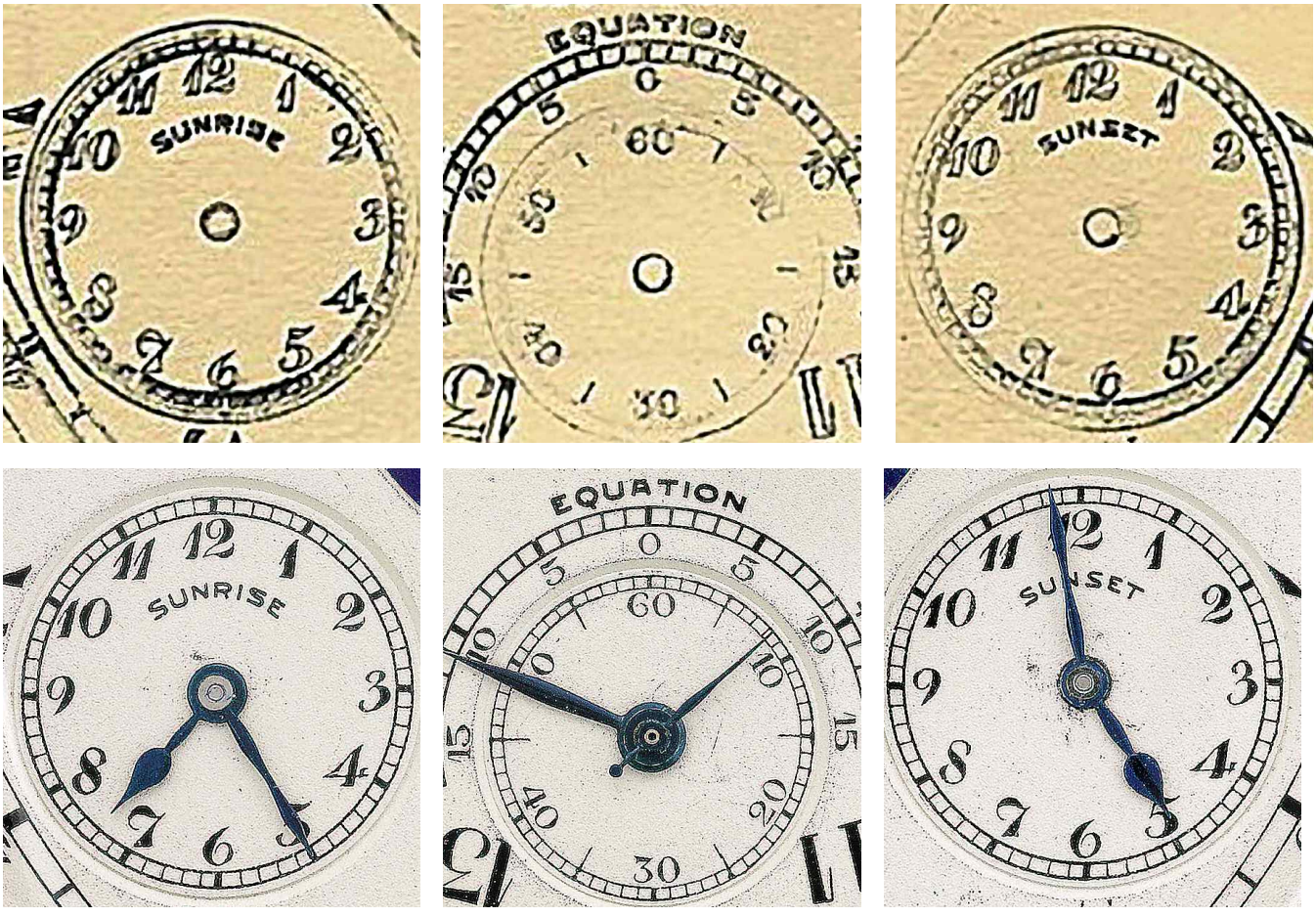


DRAWING PRODUCED FOR THE GRAVES SUPERCOMPLICATION BY STERN FRÈRES
COURTESY OF WWW.ERICTORTELLA.COM

THE SIDEREAL DIAL

The sidereal time dial was made between 1929 and 1932 from a gold plate with silvered finish. The three subsidiary dials for sunrise, sunset, and subsidiary sidereal seconds were recessed by circular engraving. The plate was then engraved and enamelled. Above the subsidiary sidereal seconds, the equation of time sector indicates the difference between the minutes of mean time and sidereal time. The sky chart is also made from a gold disc and is overlaid with champlevé blue enamel. The archives of Stern Frères show that Patek Philippe supplied the gold for the dial and paid 110 Francs for its construction. The Stern Frères archives still retain a copy of the original drawings for the dial which were submitted to Henry Graves, Jr. for his approval. The drawings appear in what is known as Stern Frères special design book.

Gold dial plate with silvered finish, black enamel Arabic dauphine numerals, outer minute track, large aperture revealing the sky chart surrounded with the cardinal points, the sky chart composed of a champlevé blue enamel over gold stars à paillons depicting approximately 450 stars and a magnificent representation of the Milky Way, the whole of the night sky for the exact longitude of Mr. Graves' Manhattan apartment overlooking Central Park on Fifth Avenue, three sunken subsidiary dials for times of sunrise and sunset in New York, and seconds combined with equation of time scale, 'pear' shaped blued steel hands, the dial plate engraved and enamelled and with large personal inscription reading "Made for Henry Graves Jr, New York 1932 by Patek, Philippe & Co. Geneva, Switzerland."



COURTESY OF WWW.ERICTORTELLA.COM

THE SUBSIDIARY DIALS AND THEIR ORIGINAL DESIGNS

1. Star Chart over New York City
2. Minutes of Sidereal Time
3. Time of Sunset
4. Seconds of Sidereal Time
5. Equation of Time
6. Time of Sunrise
7. Hours of Sidereal Time



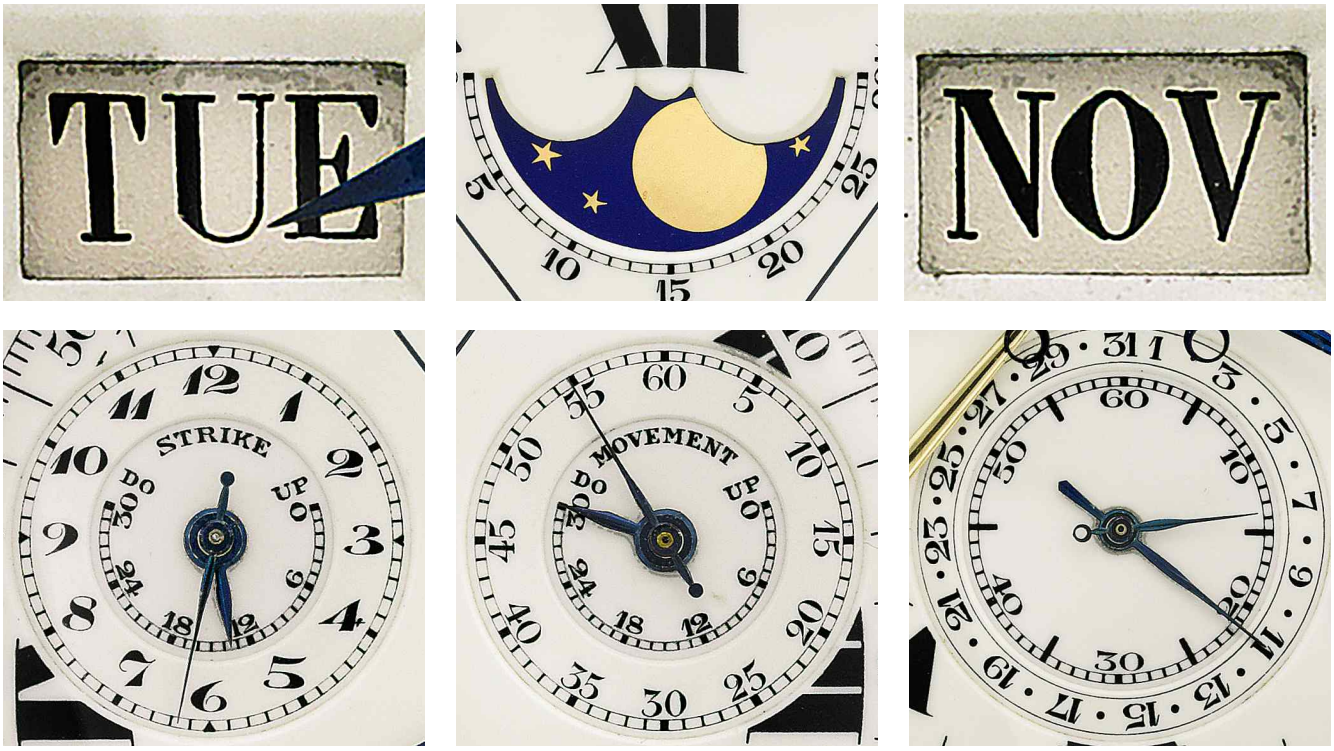

55
22
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18
WEST
17
SUNRISE
40
12
35
VI
25


MADE FOR
HENRY GRAVES JR
NEW-YORK 1932
BY
PHILIPPE & Cie GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
SOUTH
EAST
NORTH
SIDERAL TIME
EQUATION
SUNSET

THE MEAN TIME DIAL

The mean time dial was made by Stern Frères S.A. between 1929 and 1930 and is white enamel. The perfect aesthetics of the dial mask the extreme complexity of its construction. The dial has to accommodate seven layers of hands - the two split seconds hands, hour hand, minute hand, alarm hand, and double hands within either power reserve subsidiaries - all of which have to seamlessly glide above one another. In order to accommodate the unprecedented number of hands, the subsidiary dials are double sunk, and each are made from two separate enamel sections with their relevant calibrations. This allows extra depth to the dial, keeping the overall height between crystal and dial surface to a minimum and thereby minimizing the overall depth of the watch.

White enamel dial, black enamel radial Roman numerals chiffres Romaines regardants, style Genève, outer track for minutes and chronograph seconds indication for fifths of a second, double-sunk subsidiary dials for 60-minute and 12-hour registers combined with power reserves for striking and going trains respectively, further double-sunk subsidiary dial for subsidiary seconds and date, apertures for day, month and moon-phases, Breguet hour and minute hands, the subsidiary dials with feuille shaped hands, gold alarm indicator hand, all other hands blued steel.



DETAILS OF CALENDAR WINDOWS, MOON-PHASES, AND THE SUBSIDIARY DIALS

8. Moon Phase and age
9. Split Seconds Hands
10. 60-minute Register
11. Up-and-Down Wind Indicator for Movement (time)
12. Month
13. Minutes of Mean Time
14. Seconds of Mean Time
15. Date
16. Alarm Hand
17. Day
18. Hours of Mean Time
19. Up-and-Down Wind Indicator for Strike
20. 12-Hour Register




STRIKE
TUE


XII
PATEK PHILIPPE & CIE
GENEVA
MOVEMENT
SWITZERLAND





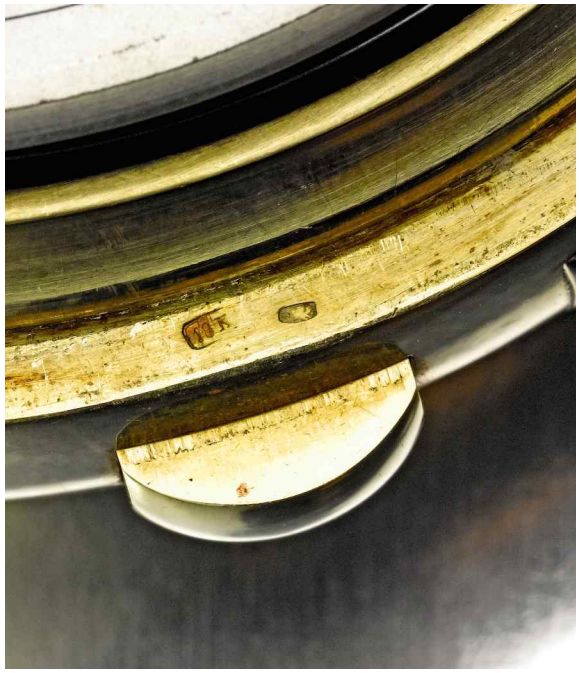




THE CASE

The case of the Supercomplication was made by Luc Rochat of L'Abbaye in the Vallée de Joux. The case is 73.2mm in diameter, 35mm thick including the crystals and weighs 535g (1 lb, 3 oz). The case by itself weighs an impressive 250g. The double open-faced case is of classic bassine design. Both bezels are impressively thick to accommodate the depth of the dials and their hands. Each bezel has a concealed hinge, which represents the highest quality of such design.

Despite the watch's impressive size, it is exceptionally well proportioned; this is a testament to the careful planning and extraordinary collaboration between the master watchmakers, dial makers, and case maker who, between them, ensured that every cubic millimeter of space was used with the greatest efficiency. Almost five years were required from the design of the case to its final delivery, during which time hundreds of adjustments were made to ensure every function allowed by the slides and pushers was precise and smooth.



DETAIL OF THE SPLIT SECONDS PUSHER

OPPOSITE: DETAIL SHOWING NIBS FOR REPEAT, PETITE SONNERIE (LS), GRANDE SONNERIE (GS) AND ALARM WINDING


ALARM
G S
L S



THE CASE

The case incorporates 13 operational functions. Facing the watch from the mean time side and running around the case in a clockwise direction from the crown these are:

1. winding device, turning to one side for the main barrel and to the other side for the chime
2. pulling the crown, first position for the mean time, second position for the sidereal time setting
3. chronograph main start/stop coaxial device
4. moon-phase adjuster
5. alarm winding sliding device
6. petite/grande sonnerie selection slide
7. minute repeat trigger slide
8. adjuster for months of the year
9. adjuster for days of the week
10. adjuster for date of the month
11. the strike/silent option, selected via a slide
12. the split device pusher
13. pusher to engage hand-setting when crown is pulled out






PATEK PHILIPPE & CIE
GENEVA
STRIKE
UP
DOWN
MOVEMENT
UP
TUE



TIER 1 -
UNDER SIDEREAL TIME DIAL

VIEW WITH SIDEREAL TIME TRAIN REMOVED SHOWING THE TIME AND CHRONOGRAPH MECHANISMS

COURTESY PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA



TIER 1 -
UNDER MEAN TIME DIAL
VIEW WITH CALENDAR MECHANISM REMOVED

THE MOVEMENT

TIER 1 -

The movement's core tier is double sided. Each side of the core accommodates an additional tier, thereby making a total of three tiers.

The movement: 25''' damascened, two train, multi-layered plates with 70 jewels, signed and numbered on the movement band

Tier 1

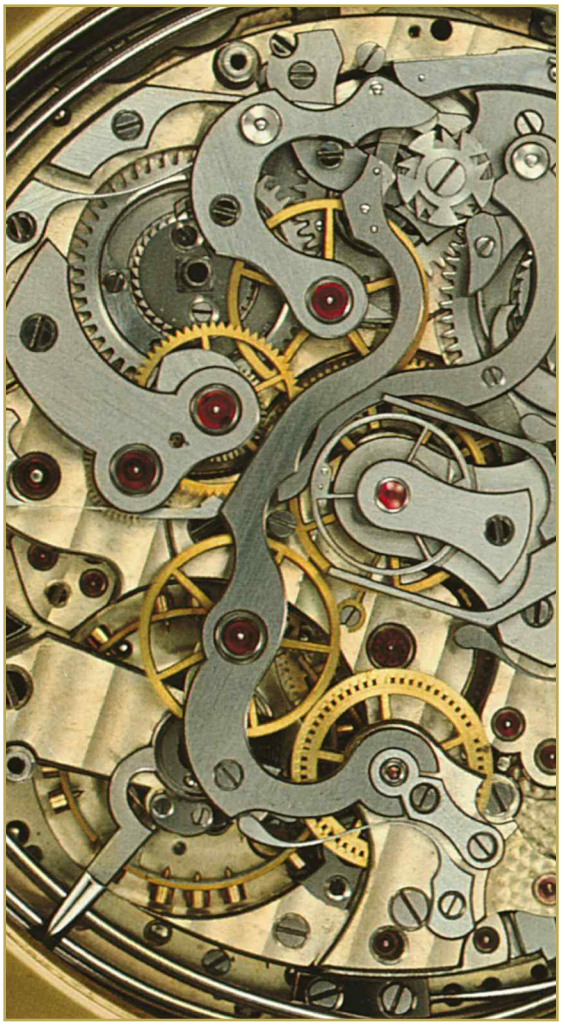
Main plate with lever escapement, three first wheels of 14k gold, bi-metallic compensation balance with gold regulating screws, adjusted to heat, cold, isochronism and five positions, unique balance regulator with aperture enabling regulation concealed under bezel, striking mechanism with two barrels, Westminster-type carillons with grande and petite sonnerie, alarm with separate gong and hammer, both chronograph mechanisms visible to back-plate of central tier

The chronograph is executed in a classic manner, however this complication utilizes a 12-hour register which is rarely seen on Patek Philippe watches. Indeed, while such a feature is found on a small number of split seconds chronographs, this is the second known time a 12-hour register has been seen on a very complicated watch (above triple complication); the first being on Mr. Packard's no. 174.129. It is also notable that the chronograph function has a 60-minute register which is considerably more complex to integrate than the more standard 30-minute register. Only the split seconds chronograph wristwatch No.124.824, made in 1923 (sold Sotheby's, June 2014, lot 175) is known to have a similar 60-minute register. Today, Patek Philippe revived the use of the 60-mintues registers for split-second chronograph with the models 5950, 5951, and 5959.

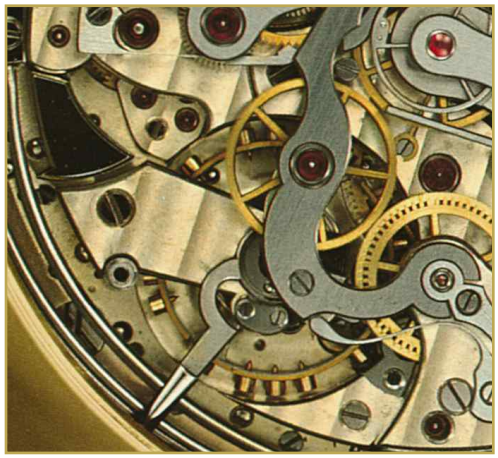
The Grande Sonnerie includes four hammers that strike four gongs to sound the passing hours and Westminster quarter hours.

The Petite Sonnerie when activated merely strikes the passing Westminster quarter hours.

The Alarm employs a fifth hammer and fifth gong to ring the alarm.



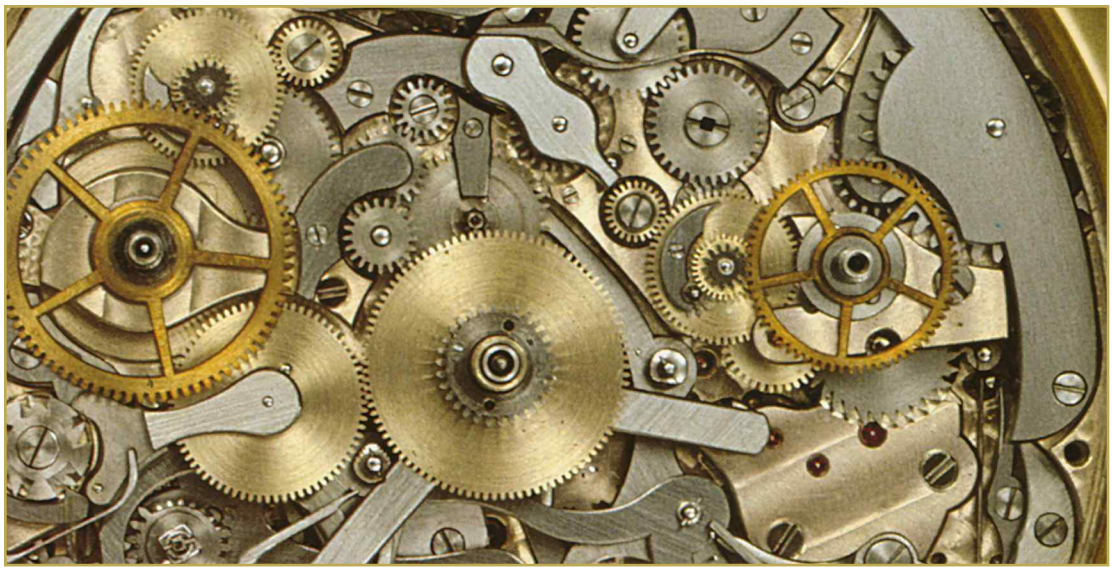
DETAIL OF SPLIT SECOND MECHANISM



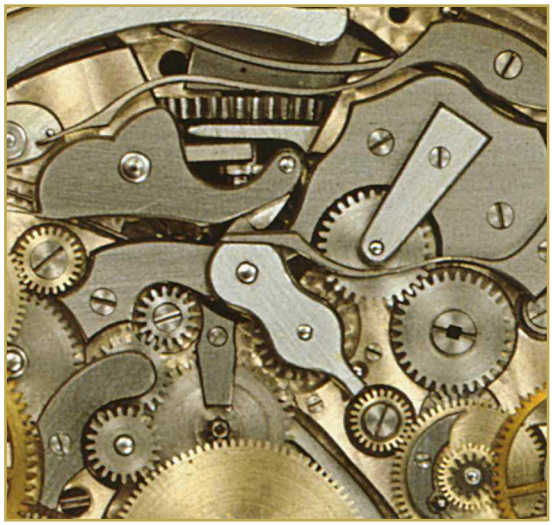


TOP: DETAIL OF BALANCE ASSEMBLY AND REGULATOR
BOTTOM: DETAIL OF HAMMERS AND GONGS

COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA



DETAIL OF POWER RESERVES AND ALARM WINDING MECHANISM



DETAIL OF WINDING AND SETTING SYSTEM



DETAIL OF STRIKING WORK



TIER 2 -
UNDER MEAN TIME DIAL
VIEW OF CALENDAR MECHANISM AND MOON PHASES

COURTESY PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA



TIER 3 -

UNDER SIDEREAL TIME DIAL

VIEW SHOWING MECHANISM FOR STAR CHART AND SIDEREAL TIME

THE MOVEMENT

TIER 2 -
UNDER MEAN TIME DIAL

Plate with alarm, spring and lever lay-out for time and alarm triple-setting system, calendar, moon-phases.

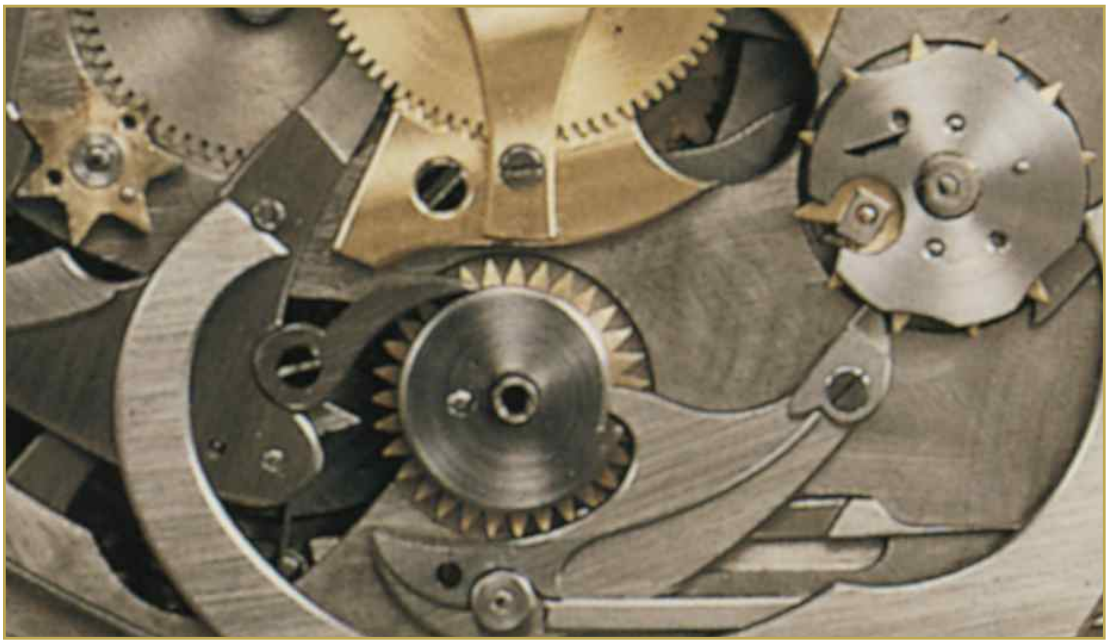
The Perpetual Calendar is unusually displayed with the days of the weeks and months of the year shown in rectangular windows (see page 34).



DETAIL OF MOON PHASES



DETAIL OF HANDS ARBOR



DETAIL OF CALENDAR

COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA


PATEK, PHILIPPE & CIE
GENEVE
STRIKE
UP
DO
MOVEMENT
UP
DO

THE MOVEMENT

TIER 3 -
UNDER SIDEREAL TIME DIAL

Sidereal time train, sky chart mechanism, cams for equation of time, sunrise and sunset

The Sidereal Time train is constructed with three main wheels and makes one full revolution every sidereal day. The Supercomplication provides the complete sidereal time with hours, minutes and seconds indicated. This is the most accurate manner to display Sidereal time but also the most complex.

The Sky Chart mechanism comprises the display plate itself with three wheels and one gear, all connected to the sidereal time and adjustable through the crown's hand setting function.



CAMS FOR SUNRISE, SUNSET, EQUATION OF TIME, AND MAIN WHEELS OF SIDEREAL TIME TRAIN

COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA



DETAIL OF APERTURE SHOWING GONGS

THE BUIILDING OF A LEGEND

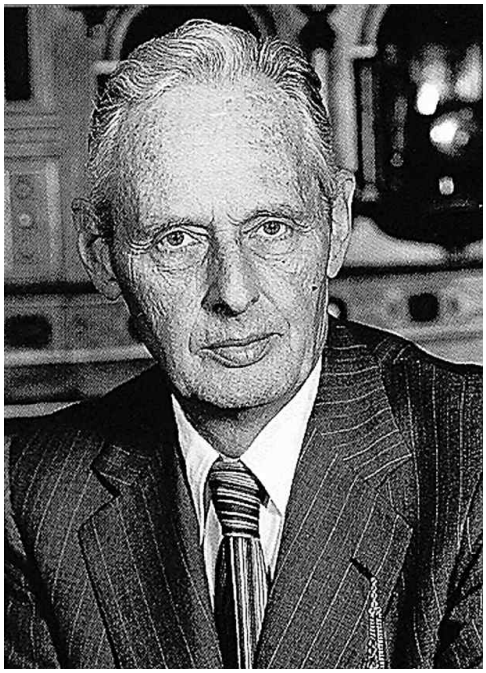
The Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication is one of the most well-documented watches of all time. Its fame and importance has been featured in innumerable publications, newspapers, journals, books, and magazines ever since its creation.

Even before the Supercomplication had arrived on American soil, it had attained celebrity status. In his commissioning of the watch, Mr. Graves had requested that his name be redacted in any texts or images published about the watch. This request did not keep various sources from publishing images and information about the watch and, in lieu of using Graves' name, they wrote that the watch was owned privately. It was not until C.B. Driscoll wrote in his *Billings Gazette* society column, "New York Day by Day" that Mr. Graves' name became linked to the field of horology. Driscoll wrote in his June 21, 1938 column "Henry Graves, Jr. has one of the most expensive hobbies in New York. He is a watch collector. Mr. Graves pays $2,500 or $3,500 for most of his specimens..." (Perman 321).




PATEK-PHILIPPE & Co.
GENEVA (SWITZERLAND)
HIGH GRADE WATCHES
PATEK PHILIPPE
GENEVE
MARTIN HUBER & ALAN BANBERY
THE MOST COMPLICATED
WATCHES IN THE WORLD
Specimen Patek-Philippe: Minute repeater and chime on 4 gongs. On the one dial: Alarm and split-seconds chronograph with 2 up-and-down dials for the main-springs; perpetual calendar self-corrected for leap-year; phases of the moon. On the reverse dial: Sidereal time and dials indicating equation between solar and mean times; dials giving times of sunrises and sunset. In the centre a celestial circle showing constellations visible at all times of the day. It took 8 years to make without counting time taken in preparation, mathematical and astronomical studies and plans.
The Summum
Fig. 1
Fig. 2
developing indicators. Perpetual calendars showing the days of the week, the date, the months of the year and the phases of the moon.
COMPLICATED WATCH
delivered this fabulous timepiece
ector. It had taken them seven y
ad never before - nor has it since
be almost impossible to estimate
nd its value. Our purpose in pictu
g it, however briefly, is to show ou
and in the dedicated work which is
ouse of Patek Philippe.
Ladies' Bracelet Watches by Patek Philippe are made in 18-karat white or yellow gold, as well as platinum. They are designed to be as attractive on the wrist as a piece of fine jewelry can be - and so simple in form and ornamentation that they stay new and fresh through the varying trends in jewelry fashions. The watch itself is easy to read, and the time it tells can be depended upon.
The above shows you two such pieces from a collection which is continuously being augmented, although each design is executed in a very limited edition. It is interesting to note that Patek Philippe ladies' bracelet watches have in the last few years been acquired by more women than ever before. We are delighted that discriminating purchasers of ladies' watches too are recognizing Patek Philippe's world-famous qualities. It would be unfair if such timepieces were made exclusively for gentlemen!
o many unique features t
WATCHES
THESE ARE THE BEST
BUILT IN THE WORLD
DECEMBER 23, 19
SAT
FEB
TUE
OCT
SUN
JUL

SETH ATWOOD AND THE PURCHASE OF THE SUPERCOMPLICATION



Seth G. Atwood (1917-2010) was an avid watch and clock collector and was amongst the most important collectors during the second half of the 20th Century. Mr. Atwood's mission was to build an important collection that represented the complete history and development of timekeeping. It is known that he had a list of 100 'must have' pieces, all of which were still in private hands, with the Supercomplication at the top of the list.

The esteemed British Horologist, the late Dr. George Daniels, wrote in a preface to the Sotheby's December 1986 catalogue Fine Watches from the Atwood Collection:



INTERIOR OF THE TIME MUSEUM
SOTHEBY'S CATALOGUE COVER 1999



SETH ATWOOD'S DOUBLE DIALLED CALENDAR WATCH. COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA

"His method was to approach every known and established horologist and describe the pieces he wanted in order to build a complete picture of the development of the timekeeper. Never in the history of watch collecting had so great a surprise confronted so many horologists. Nothing but the best would do. The reaction to his simple approach to assembling a collection was mixed with many believing the task impossible because the growth of interest in the field had narrowed the potential for acquisition."

The idea for the collection began to take shape in 1967, with Mr. Atwood's first acquisitions starting in 1968. The collection's size and importance grew rapidly, and in 1970 The Time Museum opened its doors in Rockford, Illinois. At the height of Mr. Atwood's collecting activity, the Museum encompassed 3,500 pieces and spanned 4,800 years from the beginning of Stonehenge (c. 2800 B.C.) to the latest Atomic clocks.

Purchased by Mr. Atwood in 1969, the Supercomplication was one of the earliest pieces to join the Time Museum collection. Surviving correspondence shows that Mr. Atwood was put in contact with Pete Fullerton by Patek Philippe in January 1969. Patek Philippe's letter to Mr. Fullerton, dated 15th January 1969, states: "We have received an inquiry from another customer who is interested in your watch. He would be willing to pay quite a high price."

Mr. Atwood and Mr. Fullerton met in New York in February 1969. In a letter dated 21st February, Mr. Atwood thanked Mr. Fullerton for seeing him the previous day and for showing him the Patek Collection. Mr. Atwood was about to leave for South America, and at the end of the letter he writes: "I fully realize the confidential nature of our discussions and, as you said, I think I need a little time on my vacation to mull." A month later, on 26th March 1969, the transaction to buy the Supercomplication was finalized.

Mr. Atwood, never one to shy away from a challenge, prevailed.

SOTHEBY'S 1999 SALE

On 12th March 1999, the horological world was changed forever with the news that the Time Museum would close. Patricia Atwood, the museum curator at the time, delivered the surprising news to the public. For nearly 30 years, the Time Museum had become the epicenter of horological activity and scholarship.

Sotheby's was subsequently selected to sell a small group of masterworks from the collection. The December 2nd 1999 sale, Masterpieces from the Time Museum, comprised 81 lots and included the Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication.

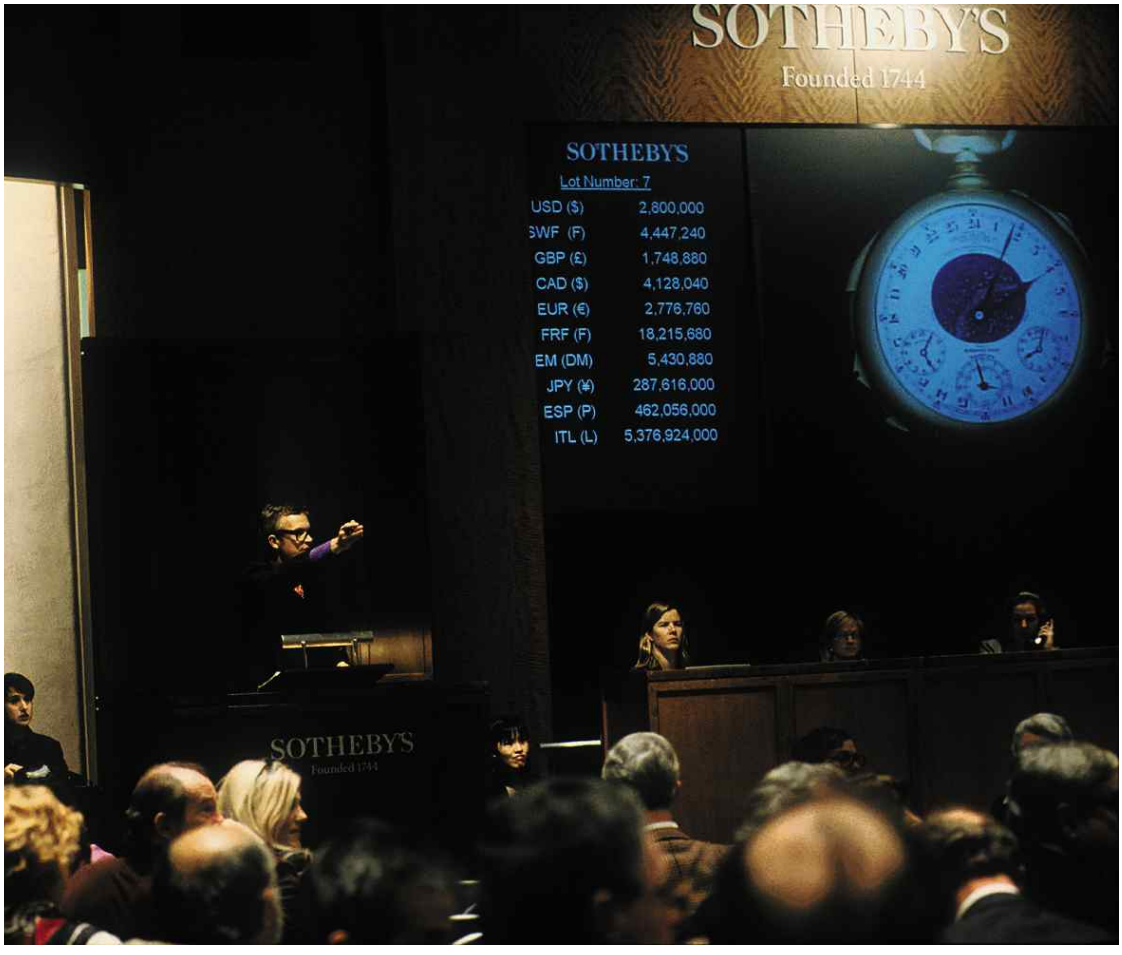
Our 1999 encounter with the Supercomplication was the second time in more than a decade that we were asked to ponder its staggering importance. During a 1986 Museum visit, my colleague, Kevin Tierney, and I were permitted to examine the Supercomplication. Seth Atwood and then-Curator, Will Andrews, drank in our excitement as we were rendered speechless in the presence of this epic piece.

When we learned that the Supercomplication would be included in the 1999 auction, we were humbled by the honor and responsibility extended to Sotheby's. Once the news was released that we would be selling the Supercomplication, excitement started to manifest amongst the watch cognoscenti and the speculation began: Who would buy it? How much would it sell for?

The auction was held on a December afternoon. The Supercomplication would be offered in the earlier part of the sale. When the auctioneer, Ian Irving, announced the lot, we all took a deep breath. Pretty quickly we sensed the enthusiasm from our bidding audience with several hands shooting up to bid. The watch soared past its pre-sale auction estimate and within moments the price reached $5,000,000. At this moment, two new phone bidders entered the fray and by the time the hammer was brought down by the auctioneer, the Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication had shattered the world record for any horological work of art, selling for an astounding $11,000,000.

In addition to the world record for the Supercomplication, the 1999 Masterpieces from the Time Museum auction broke several additional records that day, including one for a single owner sale of timepieces. The 81 lots in the sale totaled an impressive $28,000,000, against a low estimate for the entire auction of $7,000,000. Ultimately the entire Time Museum collection was sold by Sotheby's, first in 1986 then later between 1999 and 2004 after the museum closed; the grand total sold reached $58,000,000.

- Daryn Schnipper



THE OPENING BID FOR THE SUPERCOMPLICATION AT AUCTION, SOTHEBY'S 1999 AUCTION ROOM, 1999

THE SUPERCOMPLICATION AND THE CALIBRE 89

The year 1969 marked a distinct turning-point in the history of the 'Graves Super-Complication Watch'. In March of that year a member of the Graves family sold it to Seth Atwood, industrialist and founder-owner of The Time Museum in Rockford, Illinois.

In 1980 I visited The Time Museum and asked Seth Atwood if I could take the Graves super-complication to Geneva in order to photograph the complex mechanisms, in detail. The only stipulation that Seth imposed was that I should hand-carry the watch and take the direct Swissair flight from Chicago to Zurich, non-stop. What an experience!

The impressive photos subsequently taken of the Graves watch, in Geneva, appear in my first book, co-authored with Martin Huber, and entitled: 'Patek Philippe Genève' which deals, essentially, with pocket-watches made by the Manufactory. This book was published in 1982 and finally lifted the veil of mystery surrounding some of the fabulous pocket-watches made by Patek Philippe.

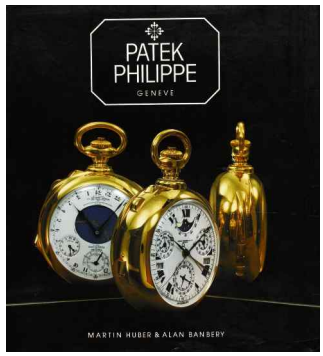
The second book entitled 'Patek Philippe Wristwatches' was published in 1985.

Part of the fallout resulting from the publication of these books, was the mercurial rise in the prices attained by some Patek Philippe watches in the auction rooms around the world. In addition, the Graves super-complication – hitherto known only to an exclusive circle of 'aficionados' – resumed its role as super-star in the wondrous world of horology!

As we now know, this icon of watchmaking again changed hands during the Sotheby's watch auction which took place in New York in 1999. After animated and breath-taking bidding, the final and winning bid achieved a world-record price of over eleven million US dollars. Although Patek Philippe did not acquire the watch it was subsequently lent, by the new owner, to the Patek Philippe Museum in Geneva and displayed there for a number of months.

Thus, once again, possibly the most coveted of all famous watches will shortly pass into the hands of a new owner. Before it does, I will ensure that I have the opportunity to again hold it in my hands and experience that indefinable feeling I had when Seth Atwood entrusted the 'Graves Super-Complication Watch' to me almost 35 years ago.

Alan Banbery
Former Curator, Patek Philippe Museum
Geneva, October 2014



COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA

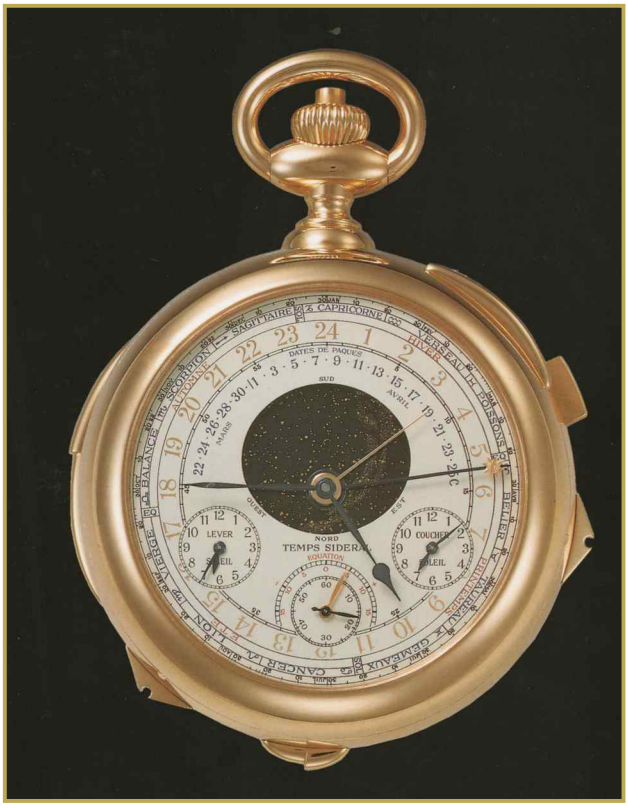




THE CALIBRE 89, IMAGES COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA

TOP FIVE PATEK PHILIPPE COMPLICATED WATCHES

Name of Watch	Movement No.	Year Completed	Number of Complications	Amount Made
Packard Sky Chart	198.023	1927	11	1
Grand Complication	198.240	1929	13	1
Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication	198.385	1932	24	1
Calibre 89	844.000, 844.001, 844.002, 844.003	1989	33	4
Star Calibre 2000		2000	21	at least 30





THE CALIBRE 89, IMAGES COURTESY OF PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA

PROVENANCE & TIMELINE

Provenance

Henry Graves, Jr., New York, January 1933
Gwendolen Graves Fullerton, by descent from the above, New York, 1953
Reginald H. "Pete" Fullerton, by gift from the above, New York, 1960
Time Museum, Rockford, Illinois, Inventory no. 4443, 1969
Sotheby's, New York, Masterpieces from the Time Museum, 2 December 1999, lot 7
Private Collection

Exhibited

Rockford, Illinois, The Time Museum, 1970-1999
Geneva, The Patek Philippe Museum, 2001-2005

Literature

"The Summum of complication," *Journal Suisse d'Horologie*, December 1932, pp. 36-37.
"Watches: These are the Best Built in the World," *Life Magazine*, 23 December 1940, p. 31.
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Eugene Jaquet and Alfred Chapuis, *Technique and History of the Swiss Watch*, New York, 1970, pl. 122-123.
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Rheinhard Meis, *Taschenuhren: Von d. Halsuhr zum Tourbillon*, Munich, 1979, pl. 848-850.
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David S. Landes, *Revolution in Time: Clocks and the Making of the Modern World*, Boston, 1983, pp. 448-449.
Patek Philippe S.A., *Star Calibre 2000*, Geneva, 2000, pp. 20-21.
Arthur Lubow, "Complicated Collectors," *Patek Philippe Museum*, Geneva, Autumn/Winter 2002, pp. 36-41.
Stacy Perman, *A Grand Complication: The Race to Build the World's Most Legendary Watch*, New York, 2013.



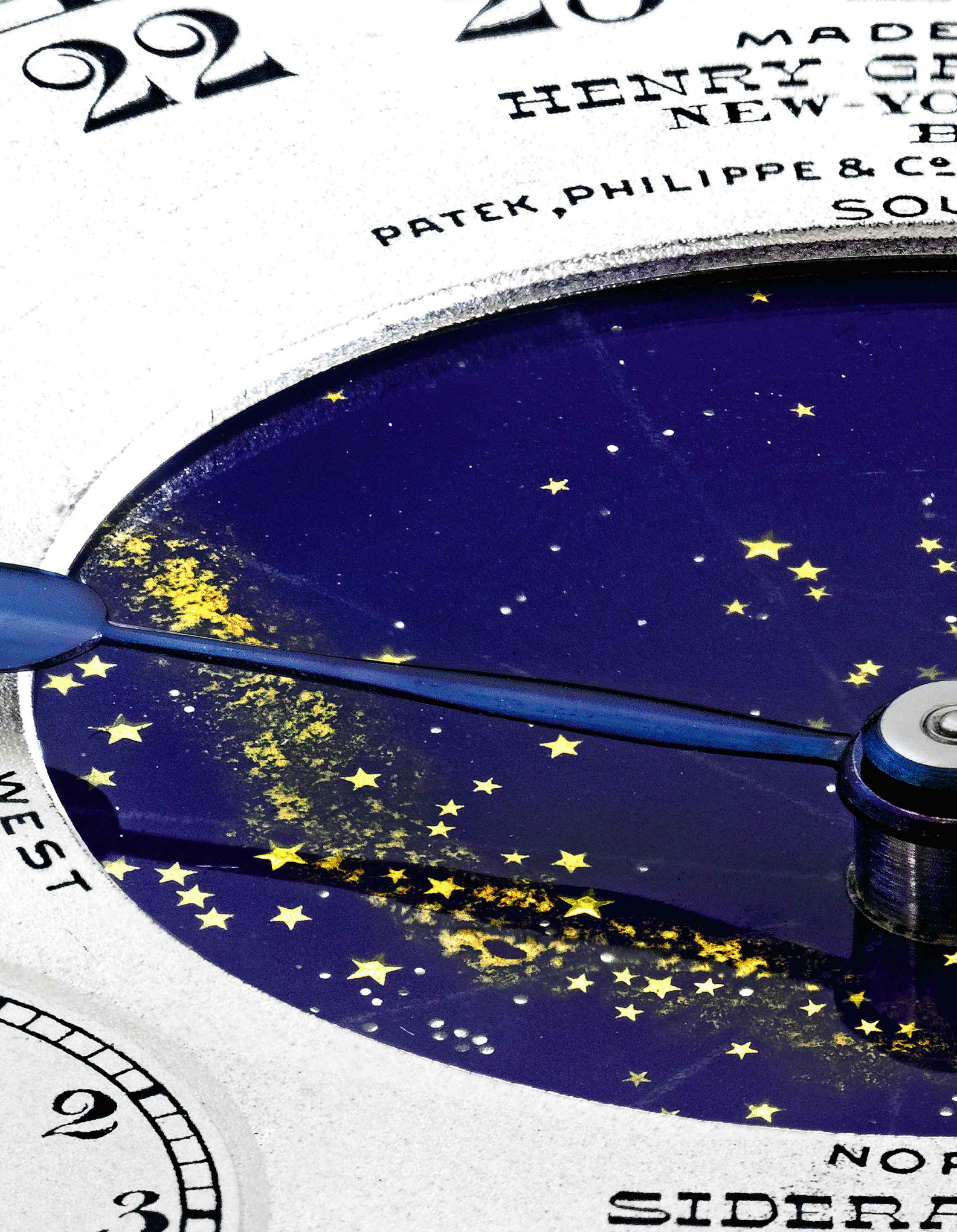
Timeline

21st March 1868	Henry Graves, Jr. is born into a prominent New York family.
1925	Mr. Graves commissions Patek Philippe to create the Supercomplication for 60,000 SF ($15,000).
1925 – 1928	Research and development is conducted.
1928	Work on the case and movement begins.
1929	Dials are ordered from Stern Frères S.A.
1929	Charles and Jean Stern of Stern Frères S.A. acquire Patek Philippe.
1929 – 1930	The mean time dial is made.
1929 – 1932	The sidereal dial is made.
Summer 1932	Testing is undertaken and the watch is completed.
10th December 1932	The Supercomplication is ready and is shipped to New York.
19th January 1933	Mr. Graves receives the Supercomplication.
December 1940	The Supercomplication is featured in Life Magazine.
21st March 1953	Mr. Graves dies at the age of 86. Ownership of the Supercomplication passes to his daughter, Gwendolen Graves Fullerton.
1960	Gwendolen gives the Supercomplication to her son, Reginald H. "Pete" Fullerton, Jr.
23rd December 1960	Henri Stern, President of Patek Philippe, signs the insurance valuation for 100,000 SF.
17th May 1960	Pete Fullerton receives a letter from Einar A. Buhl, a Sales Manager, accompanying a copy of Patek Philippe's promotional brochure, which highlights the Graves.
23rd December 1960	Henri Stern, President of Patek Philippe, signs the insurance valuation. The value is placed at 100,000 CHF.
15th January 1969	Thomas H. Graf, Associate Director of Patek Philippe, writes to Mr. Fullerton, informing him that Seth G. Atwood, a successful Illinois industrialist and fine timepieces enthusiast is interested in buying the Supercomplication.
20th February 1969	Pete Fullerton and Seth Atwood meet in New York.
20th March 1969	At age 65, Gwendolen Graves Fullerton dies.
26th March 26, 1969	Mr. Fullerton sells the Supercomplication to Mr. Atwood for $200,000.
April 1969	Mr. Atwood sends the Supercomplication to Patek Philippe in Switzerland for cleaning.
11th May 1969	A technical description is written by one of Patek's master watchmakers, per the instructions of Mr. Henri Stern.
17th May 1969	Mr. Atwood is given a photocopy of the Sunrise and Sunset calculations for New York, originally made by Jean Piguet for the Supercomplication.
1970	Mr. Atwood officially opens The Time Museum and the Supercomplication is a featured attraction.
1980	Alan Banbery, Curator of Patek Philippe, brings the Supercomplication to Geneva for photography and inclusion in his forthcoming book.
1983	*Patek Philippe*, co-authored by Martin Huber and Alan Banbery, is published with the Supercomplication as a featured piece.
1989	Patek Philippe celebrates its 150th anniversary and launches the Calibre 89. 12th March 1999 The Time Museum closes.
2nd December 1999	Sotheby's auctions the Henry Graves Jr. Supercomplication for a world record of just over $11,000,000, making it the most expensive timepiece ever sold at auction.
Fall 2001	The Patek Philippe Museum opens in Geneva, Switzerland. The Supercomplication is loaned to the Museum for its inaugural exhibition and remains on loan through 2005. 14th June 2012 Sotheby's auctions the watches of Henry Graves, Jr. and Reginald H. "Pete" Fullerton, Jr.
February 2013	A Grand Complication: The Race to Build the World's Most Legendary Watch by Stacy Perman is published by Atria Books.
November 2014	Patek Philippe celebrates their 175th anniversary.

Acknowledgements

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